

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill Number:** SB 210

**51st Legislature, 2nd Session, 2014**

**Tracking Number:** .195562.1

**Short Title:** NMSU Arrowhead Center

**Sponsor(s):** Senators Joseph Cervantes, Mary Kay Papen, and William P. Soules

**Analyst:** James Ball

**Date:** February 2, 2014

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**Bill Summary:**

SB 210 makes an appropriation to increase and expand the economic development of the Arrowhead Center for Business Development (ACBD) at New Mexico State University (NMSU).

**Fiscal Impact:**

\$145,600 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of NMSU for expenditure in FY 15. Unexpended or unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

**Fiscal Issues:**

According to the Higher Education Department (HED), NMSU submitted this request to HED as a funding increase for FY 15. FY 14 funding for ACBD was \$154,400. HED recommends \$154,400 for FY 15 with no increase for this project.

**Substantive Issues:**

NMSU states that an increase in General Fund support would help ACBD:

- foster the startup of innovation-based businesses;
- transition the discoveries and innovations of NMSU researchers into the marketplace;
- serve as an innovation hub for New Mexico and the region; and
- perform public policy analysis, economic research, and workforce analysis for industry, government, and small businesses.

**Background:**

According to NMSU, ACBD provides services for inventors, researchers, students, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and start-up businesses. ACBD moves innovative technologies to commercial markets, teaches and trains upcoming entrepreneurs, conducts vital economic and policy analysis studies, and helps small businesses start and grow through services, resources, and connections. ACBD works with students, providing hands-on learning opportunities and skills to make them more marketable as they seek employment after graduation. ACBD also serves as an engine for job creation, assisting the start-up and small businesses that drive new jobs.

**Committee Referrals:**

SCC/SEC/SFC

**Related Bills:**

HB 7 *General Appropriation Act of 2014*