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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Diamond Brantley LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 1/22/24
BILL
SHORT TITLE NMSU Enologist NUMBER Senate Bill 94
ANALYST Jorgensen

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY24	FY25	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

Agency Analysis Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)
New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 94

Senate Bill 94 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to New Mexico State University (NMSU) for the purpose of hiring an enologist, or wine making professional.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, or May 15, 2024, if enacted.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMSU reports:

According to the latest Census of Agriculture (2017), New Mexico has 1,280 acres of grapes on 376 farms, assumed to be primarily wine grapes as the state does not have a

table grape industry. The New Mexico Wine Association lists 56 wineries on their website, about three-quarters representing unique companies. According to a study commissioned by the National Association of American Wineries (in 2022) there were 57 wineries and 300 vineyard acres in New Mexico in 2022. The report indicated that total taxes generated by New Mexico's wine industry were \$80.8 million, including \$31.6 million in state and local taxes. The report estimated 7,918 jobs related to the industry (including wine-tourism-related jobs).

The Higher Education Department notes, "NMSU has a viticulture program primarily focused on research and particularly aimed at improving winemaking within New Mexico. NMSU also offers courses in relation to viticulture through the Agriculture Economics and Business program (AEEC 458 Economics of Making and Marketing Wine) and the Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management program (HRTM 414 Wine Appreciation)."

CJ/ss/ne