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**F I S C A L   I M P A C T   R E P O R T**



SPONSOR: Garcia, M.H.      DATE TYPED: 01/23/02    HB 78

SHORT TITLE: NMSU Southwest & Border Cultures Institute    SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: Baca

**APPROPRIATION**

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
	\$450.0			Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB 26

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

New Mexico State Department of Education  
New Mexico Commission on Higher Education

**SUMMARY**

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 78 appropriates \$450.0 to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to establish the Southwest and Border Cultures Institute. The appropriation will match a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Significant Issues

NMSU received a Prestigious Challenge Grant from NEH in 1998 to create and partially endow the Southwest and Border Cultures Institute. The Center's goals and activities are consistent with NMSU's land grant mission to promote humanities acquisition, research and education outreach activities that emphasize the regions multicultural and multilingual heritage. According to the NMSDE analysis, eligibility requirements call for NMSU to provide three dollars for every from non-federal sources for every one dollar received form NEH. This is the last year that NMSU is eligible to apply for matching funds.

The NMSDE analysis states that this request is a high priority for NMSU and is only one of four such proposals submitted this year by NMSU. The federal government will match funds provided by the legislature if the October 22 deadline set for applications is met.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The \$450.0 appropriation from the general fund contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2003 shall revert to the general fund.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The program will be administered by NMSU.

**DUPLICATION**

House Bill 78 is identical to Senate Bill 26.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The following is provided for information only. It is not intended as a commentary on the merits of the program/project:

This request for funding was presented to and approved by NMSU' Board of Regents and included in the institution's budget request. However, it is not recommended by the CHE.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. What evidence, such as test scores, do you have to justify the creation of the center?
2. Were public school personnel involved in the development of this request?
3. From what grade levels will student mentors come, e.g., high school, college?
4. If funded, how long would it take to get the program "up and running"?
5. Is there any activity such as the one proposed currently taking place?

LB/njw:ar