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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: House Floor DATE TYPED: 3/13/03 HB 446/HFIS
 SHORT TITLE: Limits for Seed Cotton Module Trucks SB _____
 _____ ANALYST: Maloy

REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring Or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04			
	Minimal		Recurring	NMSHTD Road Fund

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
 Taxation and Revenue Department
 DPS Motor Transportation Division

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

The House Floor Substitute for House Bill 446 provides an exemption for vehicles used to transport seed cotton modules. The bill exempts these transports from securing a permit or escort if:

1. the vehicle is no wider than 9 feet.
2. the vehicle is no longer than 48 feet, and
3. no higher than 14 feet, 6 inches;
4. the load is not transported for a distance greater than 100 miles;
5. the gross vehicle weight is less than 59,400 pounds;
6. the vehicles is marked on the front and rear with "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs; and
7. the vehicle is not operated on highways for which a more strict size or weight limitation is required by federal law.

The bill also provides that the owner of a transport with a gross weight in excess of 59,400 pounds will be liable to the state, county or municipality for any damage done to a New Mexico roadway. Further, if the transport is not operated on routes identified by the state highway and transportation department as having deficient bridge structures, the owner or operator of the transport shall obtain and keep in his possession the department's deficient bridge information.

Current bridge deficiency information shall be obtained annually.

Significant Issues:

According to the state highway and transportation department, federal highway road funding *could be compromised if these vehicles are allowed to operate in excess of 8'6" in width without securing a state permit*, reference Title 23 CFR 658.15 But, the department has stated that the substitute bill's language is intended to address and resolve this issue

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The fiscal impact to the oversize permit section of DPS/MTD would be an annual loss of revenue estimated at approximately \$1,000 annually.

SM/njw