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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Feldman DATE TYPED: 02/14/03 HB _____

SHORT TITLE: NM to Work for Peace SB SM 28

ANALYST: Padilla

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	NFI			NFI	

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HM 2

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
 New Mexico Border Authority
 Commission on Higher Education
 Economic Development Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 28 expresses the Senate’s desire to decrease the dependence of New Mexico’s economy on military and security-related activities and instead increase “life-affirming and peaceful” economic development. The memorial resolves that New Mexico should provide incentives to its national labs and universities to pursue alternatives to defense and weapons research.

Significant Issues

New Mexico has a long history of fostering science and technology activities related to the defense, nuclear and national security needs of the United States. Many people who live and work in New Mexico contribute to these activities. The memorial seems to relate New Mexico’s history and its economic strengths in science and technology to the current problems of terrorism confronting the United States. The memorial stresses that New Mexico’s rich science and tech-

nology resources can be put to peaceful and productive uses such as alternative energy, improving the environment and technology transfer.

The intent of this memorial may be in conflict with the Governor's initiative to minimize the possibility of military base closings in New Mexico.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Commission on Higher Education points out that New Mexico's institutions of higher education are already engaged in a broad range of "life-affirming" research, including medicine, and environmental protection. CHE adds that New Mexico's research institutions operate independently and pursue missions in the areas of teaching, public service and research.

The Economic Development Department did not raise any issues concerning the memorial.

LP/prr