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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Nava DATE TYPED 02/5/04 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Continue NMSU Saber y Hacer Curriculum SB 400

ANALYST Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	\$30.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Commission on Higher Education Funding Recommendations for FY05 (CHE)

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Public Education (PED)

NMSU, College of Education

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 400 appropriates \$30 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of NMSU to continue development of the Saber y Hacer curriculum to provide college preparatory training statewide for Hispanic students.

Significant Issues

Academic achievement data show a significant achievement gap between Hispanic students and other student groups in New Mexico's public schools, and this lack of achievement may well be related to the high dropout rate among Hispanic students. Educational research has shown that, in order to reduce this gap, efforts must come from different educational entities, parents and community groups. The ENLACE Saber y Hacer Curriculum addresses the Hispanic dropout rate by creating a 6th-12th college preparation curriculum to be taught during the school years in the classroom. This curriculum will be integrated into the regular curriculum and used statewide by teachers serving Hispanic students.

NMSU reports that continuing the development and eventual implementation of the ENLACE Saber y Hacer Curriculum will make a significant impact on Hispanic students in New Mexico's public schools by:

- Improving academic achievement and as a consequence reducing the achievement gap;
- Decreasing the dropout rate;
- Improving the attendance rate and reducing discipline problems;
- Increasing the student attendance rate at institutions of higher education;
- Involving parents and community in their children's education; and
- Improving student self-esteem and identity.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$30 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY05 shall revert to the general fund.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

In the interest of accountability and in accordance with established CHE practices, the institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education at a time specified by the Commission detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program.

This program was not among the requests for FY05 funding submitted by the NMSU Board of Regents to the CHE. Consequently, the Commission did not review the request.

RLG/prr