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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lundstrom **DATE** 1/24/05 **TYPED** 1/24/05 **HB** 179
SHORT TITLE Indian Arts Act Violator Prosecutions **SB** _____
ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION

| Appropriation Contained | | Estimated Additional Impact | | Recurring or Non-Rec | Fund Affected |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|------|----------------------|---------------|
| FY05 | FY06 | FY05 | FY06 | | |
| | \$200.0 | | | Recurring | General Fund |

Duplicates SB 47

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
Attorney General's Office (AGO)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 179 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund to the Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of adding at least two full-time employees within the consumer protection division or the special prosecutions and investigations division of the AGO whose primary duties will be the investigation and prosecution of violations of the Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act.

Significant Issues

The overall purpose of the New Mexico Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act is to protect Indian artists and Indian art consumers from the rash of imitation arts and crafts entering the market. The AG last received an appropriation to enforce this Act during FY 99. Enforcement efforts require resources and without the financial resources to investigate and prosecute violations, both the artisans and the consumer will remain vulnerable.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2006 shall revert to the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The AG will have to create additional positions.

DUPLICATION

This bill duplicates SB 47.

DW/yr:lg