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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Picraux DATE TYPED 2/2/05 HB 185

SHORT TITLE Public Library Funding SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Hadwiger

### APPROPRIATION (in \$000s)

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$1,250.0			Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to existing Cultural Affairs Department appropriation of \$350 thousand for aid to public libraries.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Cultural Affairs Department (DCA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 185 would appropriate \$1,250,000 from the general fund to the Cultural Affairs Department for grants-in-aid to public libraries.

#### Significant Issues

The current annual appropriation of \$350,000 has remained static over the past three years. According to the Cultural Affairs Department (DCA), the number of books, electronic databases, and other library materials has dramatically increased – e.g., 5,118 fiction titles were published in 2003, an increase of 935; 6,217 juvenile titles were published in 2001, versus 8,790 in 2003, and increase of 25,513. Also, the population served by New Mexico’s public libraries has increased by 300,000 according to the 2000 Decennial Census. With static or declining local book budgets and funds obtained from a static State Aid Program, libraries are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain currency.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$1,250,000 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund. DCA states this appropriation will enable public libraries around the state a one-time “shot-in-arm” to expand their collections.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

DCA indicates they can administer these funds with existing staff.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

Given the rapid growth in available titles, DCA requested that these funds be made recurring.

**DH/lg**