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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Nava DATE TYPED 2/8/2005 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Improve Education and State Parks Relationship SB SJM 24

ANALYST Aguilar

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)

Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 24 requests that the State Parks Division (SPD) and the Public Education Department (PED) prepare a study outlining opportunities for increased partnership between the two agencies. The study is to be transmitted to the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) by November 1, 2005.

#### Significant Issues

Both SPD's and PED's missions are aligned with the principles of dedication to customer service and education. A partnership between EMNRD and PED to use the unique resources provided by state parks could improve outdoor education programs and benefit New Mexico's entire educational system. This study could outline ways to create and enhance partnerships between the two departments. Successful outdoor education programs can make a major difference in student academic performance in the classroom, and this study can determine ways to enhance that performance.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Partnership with the State Parks Division can enhance attainment of the PED performance measures and benchmarks for customer service. State parks educational programs can improve core performance measures and the implementation and achievement of content standards and benchmarks.

The implications of SJM 24 are positive in that the number of education programs and the percentage of park visitors participating in education programs are key performance measures mandated by the Legislature for SPD. The study directed by SJM 24 could highlight methods for SPD to augment the performance of its outdoor education programs by creating closer ties to the statewide educational system and linking SPD programs and statewide educational curriculum standards and benchmarks. Outdoor educational programs are significant in that they have been found to sensitize students to the importance of New Mexico's heritage and natural and cultural resources. Further, this study could indicate methods to augment the interaction of local schools with parks, through curriculum-based field trips and other programming

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The study requested by this joint memorial can be accomplished within existing resources and staffing within both agencies.

**PAA/sb**