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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Campos DATE TYPED 02-18-05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE NM Highlands MESA Program SB 568

ANALYST Woods

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$25.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to the appropriation for New Mexico Highlands University in the General Appropriations Act.

Relates to HB 316, SB 487

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 568 – Making an Appropriation for the MESA Program at New Mexico Highlands University – appropriates \$25,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Highlands University for expenditure in FY06 to support the MESA program. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund.

Significant Issues

PED indicates that the New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement

(MESA) program promotes educational enrichment in math and science for middle and high school students from historically under-represented ethnic groups. MESA works in partnership with schools and universities to prepare pre-college students for college and careers in math, science and related fields. The program is national in scope, originating in 1970 at the University of California at Berkley. New Mexico MESA, based on this model, was founded in 1982. The program has provided thousands of middle and high school students with academic support and guidance. In the 2003-04 school year, New Mexico MESA served approximately 4,900 students in 101 schools and 31 school districts. New Mexico MESA educational activities include: tutoring and study skills, college and career counseling, field trips, academic competitions, leadership development, summer programs, scholarship incentives, elementary school outreach, teacher professional development, parental support and business collaboration.

PED adds that New Mexico MESA participants are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average, enroll in college-prep courses in math, science and English and participate in regular meetings, tutoring sessions and at least one field trip. They are also required to take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) as high school juniors, and either the SAT or ACT as juniors or seniors. General demographics for 2004 show that 1.9 percent of participants are African-American, 18.8 percent Anglo, 1.6 percent Asian, 63.5 percent Hispanic, 9.7 percent Native American and 4.5 percent other. 44.7 percent of the participants are male and 55.3 percent are female.

The New Mexico MESA service area is divided into six regions with offices at the UNM, Highlands University, NMSU and Eastern New Mexico University. The MESA program at Highlands University has traditionally been funded in part through Highlands.

CHE notes that this request was not in the list of priority projects submitted by New Mexico Highlands University to CHE for review. Accordingly, the request was not included in the commission's funding recommendation for FY06.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS:

PED suggests that while there is no direct impact on the department's core performance measures and benchmarks, the legislation does support the core performance measures and benchmarks for mathematics and for parent involvement. The legislation additionally supports improved achievement on standards-based measures in science.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$25,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

New Mexico Highlands University will retain oversight of this appropriation.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to the appropriation for New Mexico Highlands University in the General Appropriations Act.

Relates to HB316 in that HB316 seeks to appropriate \$100,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for expenditure in FY06 to enhance pre-college science and mathematics skills and conduct a summer mathematics and science camp for minority students.

Relates to SB487 in that SB487 seeks to appropriate appropriates \$250,000 to the Commission on Higher Education for expenditure in FY06 to provide programs at various New Mexico colleges and universities for high school students to develop expertise in the fields of mathematics, science and engineering.

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