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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Youngsberg ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/06
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 642
SHORT TITLE Latin American Institute Study Abroad Program SB _____
ANALYST Earp

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$60.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Senate Bill 582

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 642 appropriates \$60,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) to support the Latin American and Iberian Institute study abroad program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$60,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This proposal was not included among the special program funding requests submitted by UNM to the Higher Education Department (HED) for review. Consequently, this proposal has not been included in the HED fiscal year 2007 funding recommendations to the Legislature.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

UNM would administer the funding provided through this legislation. No significant impact is evident.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

This bill is related to Senate Bill 582 which would appropriate \$200,000 to UNM for study abroad programs.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

HED provided information indicating that UNM has 31 semester exchange agreements with universities in 10 Latin American countries. For semester exchanges, students should be at junior-level, with at least 50-60 credit hours completed by the time they go abroad and have a 3.0 GPA. Students should have a good control of the language, having taken five semesters (through 301 or 302) by the time they go abroad. For the short-term language programs, there are no requirements; non-UNM students can attend; students can be a freshman, or a beginner, and do not need a 3.0 GPA to be accepted into the program.

DKE/nt