

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Picraux ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/06
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 655
SHORT TITLE UNM Arts-in-Medicine Program SB _____
ANALYST Lewis

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Non-Rec | Fund Affected |
|---------------|------|-------------------------|------------------|
| FY06 | FY07 | | |
| | 25.0 | Recurring | General Fund |
| | | | |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 655 appropriates \$25,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico to support the Arts-in-Medicine Program, an interdisciplinary initiative between the University of New Mexico Hospital and its College of Fine Arts.

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 fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to its web site at http://artsinmedicine.unm.edu/arts_in_medicine.htm, the mission of the Arts-in-Medicine Program is to transform the medical environment and the lives of the people therein by facilitating creative and artistic encounters for patients and their caregivers.

Working one-on-one with patients, their families, and medical professionals, the program aims to

- encourage participants to stop, examine, and transform the quality of their lives;
- provide opportunities to express painful and/or suppressed feelings;
- co-create new perspectives on and increased meaning in life;
- facilitate positive experiences and heightened self-esteem;
- stimulate spiritual expression and;
- relieve pain, discomfort, anxiety, restlessness, respiratory difficulties, insomnia, isolation, depression, withdrawal, loss of speech, grief, and anticipatory grief.

According to the Higher Education Department (HED), Arts-in-Medicine services are offered throughout the UNM Health Science Center's (UNMHSC's) facilities, including the primary hospital, the psychiatric center, the cancer center and hospice. The program also offers a service-learning course that runs hand-in-hand with the UNMHSC clinical program. The course, designed for healthcare professionals, community members, educators, artists and students, explores connections between creative experiences and physical and mental health.

This appropriation was not on the list of priority projects submitted by UNM or UNMHSC to the HED for review and was not included in the HED's funding recommendation for FY07.

ML/nt