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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/6/06

SPONSOR Altamirano LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Spanish Colonial Horse Celebration SB 218

ANALYST Hoffmann

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

No Duplicates.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 218 appropriates \$100,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Highlands University for the purpose of informing, motivating and inspiring the youth of New Mexico by promoting the Spanish colonial horse as part of the Albuquerque Tri-centennial celebrations.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100,000 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 submitted to the Higher Education Department through research, public service, and special program requests by New Mexico Highlands University. This request was not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY07. It was also not included in the LFC's appropriation recommendations.

According to the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Spanish Colonial Horse, imported by Spanish conquistadores, had major impact on conquest, culture and economics in the Southwest, and on Native American culture and warfare. The introduction of the horse, at times, changed the power structure among Native Americans. The Spanish Colonial Horse is a current breed and traces lineage back to the Spanish conquistadores' horses. This horse appears to be extinct in Spain and very few exist still in the United States.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

According to the *Conquistador Magazine, the World of Spanish Horses*, the breed is called the Colonial Spanish Horse and is most often referred to as the "Spanish Mustang."

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Department of Cultural Affairs provided the following information.

"Museums across New Mexico, the Southwest and the Plains point to the impact of the horse on these regions in their exhibits. An example of such a museum in New Mexico is the Hubbard Museum of the American West (formerly the Museum of the Horse) in Ruidoso Downs, where it would make sense to feature exhibits on the Spanish Colonial Horse.

The bill does not identify who will "inform, motivate and inspire the youth of New Mexico" nor how. Additionally, there is no detail on how New Mexico Highlands University, the Spanish Colonial Horse and the Albuquerque Tricentennial Celebration fit together.

We are not certain if any New Mexico organization exists that promotes this breed."