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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/22/07

SPONSOR Begaye LAST UPDATED _____ HB 101

SHORT TITLE Tribal Infrastructure Legislative Oversight SB _____

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
None	None		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 101 requires that the legislative interim Indian Affairs Committee shall be briefed by the board on grant and loan proposals submitted to the board and shall review, ~~[the list of]~~ monitor and provide assistance and advice concerning grants and loans [made] proposed by the board.

This language instructs the board to not make loans and grants prior to informing the Indian Affairs Committee.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Indian Affairs Department contributes the following:

The 2005 Tribal Infrastructure Act (“Act”) states that the policy of the State of New Mexico is to improve the basic quality of life of residents within Indian County through the use of any means available. The purpose of the Act is, in part, to enable the State to provide assistance to Indian Tribes, Pueblos and Nations to develop basic residential services such as electrical service, plumbing, sewer, potable water, telecommunications and related infrastructure.

The Act created a Tribal Infrastructure Board (“Board”) comprised of state, tribal and federal representatives. The Board adopted by-laws and established criteria for selection of tribal infrastructure projects for funding. Based on the established criteria, the Board recommended funding for 10 tribal infrastructure projects across the state from the \$5 million appropriated in FY07 for this purpose; such funded projects leveraged an additional \$8.8 million. As part of the selection process the Board presented the list of proposed projects to the Committee for their review. This legislative oversight and process will remain the same for future years pursuant to the Act, regardless of whether House Bill 101 is enacted.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The language seems to give the Indian Affairs Committee a more active role in decisions affecting the Tribal Infrastructure Act. However, this more active role is implied but not fully defined.

MW/csd