F I S C A L   I M P A C T   R E P O R T

		ORIGINAL DATE	2/12/2007	
SPONSOR	Powdrell-Culbert	**LAST UPDATED**		**HB** 435
SHORT TITLE	Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Courses			**SB**

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	**FY08**		
	$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB-352
Relates to HB-201, SB-209, HB-3

Relates to appropriations in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 435 appropriates $500 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department for the purpose of expanding synchronous course offerings at the Rio Rancho cyber academy in the Rio Rancho public schools.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of $500 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC remains concerned with funding initiatives outside of the funding formula as it tends to disequalize school funding and diverts funding away from core educational needs.

Funding for the Rio Rancho cyber academy is contained in the HEC recommendations for HB-3.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Rio Rancho cyber academy is in its second year and offers Rio Rancho students state-aligned online courses both asynchronously (24/7) and synchronously (in real time). This program supports students with a blended service model allowing for students to take traditional brick-and-mortar classes in combination with an online course.

PA/mt