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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-12-2007

SPONSOR Garcia, M.H. LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 786

SHORT TITLE Taylor Reynolds Barela Mesilla Monument SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Dearing

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Cultural Affairs Department (CAD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 786 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to department of Cultural Affairs for operations of the Taylor-Reynolds-Barela Mesilla monument in Old Mesilla, New Mexico.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in House Bill 786 is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the General Fund.

The appropriation would add two FTE positions; a project manager and an artifact conservator – at a total cost of \$140.0 including benefits. The appropriation in House Bill 786 will provide operating support for these positions, in addition to contracts necessary for development of the general management plan, interpretive plan and preservation.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

A dedication ceremony for the Taylor-Barela-Reynolds-Mesilla State Monument occurred on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The property was made available in 2003 to the State through a generous living-trust<sup>1</sup> donation from former Rep. J. Paul Taylor and his now recently deceased wife, Mary Helen Daniels Taylor.

Subsequent to this donation, the property was designated a monument by Gov. Richardson in February 2004.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The department states that these positions will operate out of the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum. The Town of Mesilla has also expressed a desire to provide office space for these two positions, as the property is still occupied by Mr. Taylor at this time.

The living-trust agreement specifies that the property shall be operated as a State Monument upon the passing of both Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, causing the termination of the living trust. The donors have stipulated that operations should begin within six-months of the passing of the remaining spouse. The department wishes to initiate some of the preliminary steps necessary prior to the eventual opening of the monument.

## **RELATIONSHIP**

House Bill 786 relates to appropriations in the General Appropriations Act. The recommendation for the Cultural Affairs department included a \$345 thousand appropriation for statewide preservation and maintenance of state monuments. This recommendation did not provide FTE.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The donation agreement specifies that the site must become operational within six months of the expiration of the living-trust estate. The department states that it is therefore necessary to develop the site's general management plan, the property's preservation and maintenance plan, the site's interpretive plan, as well as the artifact curatorial and exhibit plans.

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<sup>1</sup> An inter vivos trust is created by a grantor in life, for the purpose of holding ownership to an asset during the persons' lifetime; the most significant feature of this arrangement is in stipulating asset distribution at death upon the termination of the living trust.