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

SPONSOR Fox-Young	**ORIGINAL DATE** 2/14/07 **LAST UPDATED**	**HB** 841
SHORT TITLE NM Tech Master of Science in Teaching		**SB**
	ANALYST Leger	

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

 (Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
LFC Files

Responses Received From
New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)
New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

 Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 841 appropriates $250 thousand from the general fund to the board of regents of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech) for the purpose of supporting the master of science in teaching program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of $250 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The appropriation in HB 841 will primarily be used for scholarships. NM Tech estimates up to 75 teachers would receive support for one year in the program.

The master of science teaching (MST) program is a graduate program which educators may obtain a master's degree in science teaching. The content of the courses are based with emphasis on classroom application integrated into course materials. Students are encouraged to develop classroom and laboratory activities that will be used with their own students, as well as participate in current research projects to enhance their experience and provide research opportunities to their own students. Classes are traditionally taught in the summer on the NM Tech campus over a two week period. During the academic year, evening courses are taught in Albuquerque and via distance education.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

According to HED the following are goals of the MST program:

- To enhance the development of dynamic learning communities composed of university faculty, teacher-participants, and students of teacher-participants.

- To provide current, applicable Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology (SMET) content to teacher-participants, consistent with principles of effective practice in facilitating adult learning including the promotion of collaborative spirit among NMIMT faculty, MST teacher-participants, and SMET professionals; the respect of students' uniqueness and separateness; and provision of opportunities for the systemic and altering process of exploration and investigation (i.e. reflection on action, more exploration and investigation, more reflection on action).

- To enhance classroom teaching and learning through the acquisition of in-depth SMET content knowledge.

- To enhance the development of the abilities of teacher-participants to apply vertically integrated curriculum through utilization of national teaching and content standards and Advanced Placement courses, thus contributing to the development of the educational pipeline carrying students to SMET careers.

- To provide research opportunities for teacher-participants and their students in collaboration with university faculty.

- To provide distance learning opportunities via interactive television, web casting, and frequent online interaction between university faculty, teacher-participants, and their students.

- To provide access to innovative and current classroom, laboratory, and field experiences in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology.

JL/mt