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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/16/07

SPONSOR Martinez LAST UPDATED HB 855

SHORT TITLE Native American Student & Leader Conference SB

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$35.0	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)
 Economic Development Department (EDD)
 Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 855 appropriates \$35 thousand from the general fund to the Indian Affairs Department to support a statewide conference of Native American students and alumni, tribal officials and leaders in higher education and economic development to look at options for work force development for enterprises that would benefit tribal communities economically and provide ways to bring educated young people back into tribal communities.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$35 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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

IAD notes the bill is intended to put the accumulated intellectual capital of Native Americans to work in tribal communities as an economic development mechanism. It would provide for a conference which would encourage collaboration between tribes, college educated Native Americans, and economic development interests and officials in New Mexico. Its objective, in part, would appear to be to return and retain college educated Native Americans in tribal communities, thereby providing the expertise and knowledge to facilitate economic development.

PED reports that there are already some efforts underway. Workforce development and training programs are in the New Mexico Standards under Career Readiness. New standards are currently being developed that will encompass the seven prescribed clusters for New Mexico. Junior Achievement of New Mexico has recently expanded to include efforts in New Mexico Native American communities. The Junior Achievement Native American Initiative is to build on business and economics curricula while providing culturally relevant lessons to improve the quality of life for American Indian/Native American students and their communities. The intent is to prepare students for graduation, work and to support community development goals. Ten (10) sites have been targeted to participate. They are: Pueblo of Acoma, Pueblo of Laguna, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Santa Fe Indian School, Jicarilla Apache Tribe, Native American Community Academy, Wings of an Eagle Ministry and the Navajo Nation (Window Rock and Crownpoint).

MW/csd