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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/07  
 LAST UPDATED 3/6/07      HB \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR Sanchez, M.

SHORT TITLE Creating the Hispanic Affairs Department      SB 551/aSFC

ANALYST Propst

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### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		\$700.0	\$700.0	\$1,400.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
 Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of SFC Amendment

The amendment strikes the appropriation contained in the original bill.

#### Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 551 creates the Hispanic Affairs Department Act, which establishes a Department of Hispanic Affairs and the Hispanic Affairs Commission. \$700.0 will be appropriated from the General Fund for this Department to the Department of Finance and Administration to pay expenses of establishing the Hispanic Affairs Department.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$700.0 contained in this bill 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.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The mission of the Department would be to achieve a coordinated and effective system dedicated to improving educational achievement gaps and health care access and reducing poverty rates among Hispanics in New Mexico.

SB 551 also creates a Hispanic Affairs Commission consisting of 10 members who are residents of New Mexico and appointed by the Governor. The Commission will advise the new Secretary of the Department of Hispanic Affairs, receive and disseminate information on issues that impact the welfare of Hispanics in New Mexico and provide an opportunity for the presentation and exchange of ideas with respect to Hispanic affairs by any interested party that result in the promotion of the welfare of Hispanics in New Mexico.

PED noted that if SB 551 is passed the Department and Commission will, among other positive outcomes:

- Act as the clearinghouse for all state programs affecting Hispanics of New Mexico;
- Serve as a catalyst to coordinate and invigorate activities that will improve academic achievement of Hispanic students in the public schools;
- Involve and empower parents and community members in becoming active leaders in solving their own problems; and
- Align state efforts of public and private entities dealing with issues important to Hispanics.

WEP/nt