

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/10/2007

SPONSOR Campos LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE NM Highlands Athletic Program SB 789

ANALYST Moser

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates: SB681, HB704, HB809

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

NM Department of Higher Education (NMDHE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 789 appropriates \$300,000 from the General Fund to New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) for expenditure in FY08 for athletic programs at the university.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300,000 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.

The primary athletic expenses for Division II teams nationally are grants in aid to students and salaries for coaches. HED states that NMHU plans to use the funding for the women's rodeo program and the men's wrestling program.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

HED indicates that NMHU anticipates enrolling close to 300 athletes in the 2006-07 seasons. Hundreds of clients use the facilities from various youth and community sports groups. HED states that student athletes have a higher grade point average than traditional non-athlete students, and they graduate in fewer semesters.

Student-athletes who participate in sports at NMHU compete in Division II of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC). The RMAC is comprised of 14 rival schools, ten in Colorado, two in Nebraska, and two in New Mexico--WNMU and NMHU.

NMHU offers a wide range of participation opportunities for both men and women, including five NCAA championship sports for men--Football, Cross Country, Basketball, Baseball, and Wrestling; and six NCAA championship programs for women's Cross Country, Track, Volleyball, Soccer, Basketball, and Softball. Although not an NCAA activity, the Women's Rodeo Club, which is sanctioned by the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA), provides women with the opportunity to compete in the Grand Canyon Region, consisting of Arizona and New Mexico Junior Colleges and four-year institutions.

NMHU submitted a request for funding to NMHED. The department's funding recommendation for FY08 is in the amount of \$1,851,500 which includes an increase of \$250,000 to the FY07 recurring funding of \$1,601,500.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

HED states that SB789 relates to the following bills:

- SB681: \$250,000 each to NMHU, WNMU, ENMU and NNMS (NNMC) for higher education athletic programs.
- HB704: \$75,000 to DFA to encourage parent participation at athletic events in Las Vegas, New Mexico.
- HB809: \$134,383 to NMHU for the Intercollegiate Rodeo Athletic Program.

GM/nt