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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Griego **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/17/2007 **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** _____
SHORT TITLE Taos Middle School Reading Program **SB** 897
ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HB-929;
Relates to SB8-49, HB-68-SB-406
Relates to appropriations in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 897 appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department for the purpose of implementing a reading initiative program for Taos Middle School children.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300 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.

The LFC remains concerned with funding initiatives outside of the funding formula as it tends to disqualify school funding and diverts funding away from core educational needs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Fifty-seven percent of students at Taos Middle School are not reading at grade level as measured by the New Mexico Standards-based Assessment despite the deployment of best practice literacy programs. The **READ RIGHT SYSTEM** is the research-based intervention model Taos Municipal Schools has chosen to implement for its middle school students.

Funding for this program may be available from appropriations contained in the General Appropriations Act from various sources as well as from Title I funds.

PA/mt