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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/2007

SPONSOR Campos LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NMSU & Las Vegas Schools 4-H Programs SB 973

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$75.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 60, HB 388, HB 602, HB 640, HB 109, and SB 24.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 973 appropriates \$75,000 from the General Fund to the Regents of NMSU for expenditure in FY 2008 to support a joint 4-H program between NMSU and the Las Vegas City Public Schools, involving science, technology, engineering and math.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$75,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

According to HED, the proposed funding will be allocated as follows:

4-H Agent (Salary & Benefits)	\$43,500
Apprentices Stipends (10 @ \$2,100)	\$21,500
<u>Program Operating Costs</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>
	\$75,000

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

New Mexico State University's 4-H Program is involved in partnerships throughout New Mexico with volunteers' efforts. Last year 5,220 adult 4-H volunteers contributed over 260,000 hours of volunteer service to the youth of our state, which if that service had been provided by paid staff would have cost \$4,690,400.

According to HED, the \$75,000 appropriation will fund a science, technology, engineering, and math joint program between NMSU's Cooperative Extension and the Las Vegas City School District. The program will be integrated into the Memorial Middle School-NMSU Agricultural Science Center and will provide training opportunities to apprentices (ages 14-18), who in turn will conduct youth development programs in agriculture and forestry education and restoration among middle school students. Las Vegas City School District and NMSU Cooperative Extension have entered into a Memorandum Of Understanding to facilitate the development and implementation of the 4-H Youth Development Program.

An NMSU analysis of SB 973 indicates the program will reach 400 middle school students during the school year. During the summer, 10 to 15 high school students (apprentices) and 100 to 150 middle school students will be reached by the program.

The 4-H Youth Development Program will enable youth in Las Vegas School District to learn about agro-ecology, forest ecology, earn life and work skills as well as receive a stipend, and return restored agricultural and forest environments to their communities.

This request for \$75,000 was not submitted by NMSU to HED for review, but is included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY08 as a continuance of FY07 recurring funding in the amount of \$110,000.

The NMSU Legislative Priorities for 2007-08 also includes a Cooperative Extension Service request for \$500,000 for a 4-H Youth Engagement Program to coordinate the efforts of the more than 30 existing science, technology, engineering, and math educational outreach programs sponsored by NMSU throughout New Mexico. The request is intended as start-up funding in order to assist in building a stronger connection between K-12 teachers and students and community college and university programs in these fields.

This proposal for \$500,000 is not on the New Mexico Higher Education Department's funding recommendation for FY08.

The NMSU priorities also include a \$500,000 request, for the College of Education and the College of Arts & Sciences, for the Alliance for the Preparation of Scientists, Engineers and Math and Mentoring Programs that is not part of the HED recommendation.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB 60/HB 388 - appropriate \$500,000 to NMSU for the 4-H Outreach Program.

HB 602 – appropriates \$100,000 to NMSU for the 4-H Outreach Program.

HB 640 - appropriates \$300,000 to NMSU to support 4-H programs in Lea County.

HB 109/SB 24 appropriate \$500,000 to NMSU for coordination and expansion of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Program.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service and 4-H Youth Development was the recipient of four federal grants totaling \$2,542,815 over a five-year period beginning in 2001 to establish 4-H Outreach Agents in 14 counties in New Mexico. To date over 40,000 youth have been involved in this program. These were three-year grants and the funding is being completed this year. The purpose was to fulfill a commitment to reaching a diverse new youth audience with programs that develop life skills and supplement the local schools with curriculum that provides experiential educational programs.

The Department of Higher Education has noted that, in 2005-2006, more than 74,000 of our state's youth were involved in life skill education through 4-H, making 4-H the largest youth development program in New Mexico. 4-H provides educational opportunities through which youth can learn information and develop the skills they need. The 4-H Youth Development Program emphasizes 35 life skills including: leadership, responsible citizenship, critical thinking, problem solving, decision-making, conflict resolution, respect for others, and communication that directly contributes to the successful transition of young people into productive adulthood.

BM/nt