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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Rodriguez ORIGINAL DATE 2-14-2007  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_  
SHORT TITLE Fray Angélico Chávez History Library SB 1054  
ANALYST Dearing

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$350.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to House Bill 1177

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

No agency responses received as of 2-14-2007.

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 1054 appropriates \$350 thousand from the general fund to Cultural Affairs department for the acquisition of materials for the Fray Angélico Chávez history library. Materials to will include publishers' archives, historical writings and recorded videotaped interviews of New Mexico senior citizens.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$350 thousand contained in Senate Bill 1054 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 Fray Angélico Chávez History Library is the institutional successor of New Mexico's oldest library (dated to 1851) and is part of the Palace of the Governors on the Santa Fe plaza. A non-

circulating, closed stack research facility, it preserves historical materials in many formats documenting the history of the state, the Southwest, and meso-America from pre-European contact to the present.<sup>1</sup> The appropriation in Senate Bill 1054 will provide funding for acquisition of historical and archival materials for the library.

Producing oral history documents is a systematic attempt to enlist people with first-hand knowledge of special historical developments and experiences into video-recording their memoirs while they are still able to do so effectively, with sufficient powers of recall. Oral history is spoken history, subject to all the biases and vagaries inherent in human recall; yet it is not substantially different from other historical sources (diaries, correspondence, official documents, newspapers, photographs, etc.) which are distorted, partial, and viewed through the screen of contemporary experience. Oral history data must be subjected to the same tests of evidence as other sources, examined along with other contemporary sources for corroboration and authentication. The primary value of oral history testimony is its usefulness in social history, for reconstructing the fabric of daily life since the turn-of-the-century, and for documenting the mundane details of family and community life for which written evidence is often scarce.<sup>2</sup>

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

No performance implications noted. It is unknown whether the department counts researching visitors to the Fray Angélico Chávez History Library at the Palace of the Governors within its “*Number of participants to on-site educational, outreach, and special events related to museum missions*” performance measure.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Cultural Affairs department will be the fiscal agent for the appropriation in Senate Bill 1054.

### **RELATIONSHIP**

Senate Bill 1054 nearly duplicates House Bill 1177. Very insignificant linguistic differences separate the two bills from being parallel.

PD/mt

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<sup>1</sup> Many of the library's materials are available at the *Online Archive of New Mexico*, hosted by UNM; [http://elibrary.unm.edu/oanm/index\\_NmSm.html](http://elibrary.unm.edu/oanm/index_NmSm.html)

<sup>2</sup> University of California at Santa Cruz Library; *Primer, Overview of Significance of Oral Histories*; <http://library.ucsc.edu/reg-hist/ohprimer.html>