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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/5/2007

SPONSOR Ingle LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Oscar Acosta, In Honor SM 65

ANALYST Schuss

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 65 lauds the life of Oscar Acosta and expresses the condolence of the Senate on his untimely death.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Senate Memorial 65 states that Oscar Acosta was born March 21, 1957 in Portales and grew up in Elida, graduating from Elida high school. Oscar was the proud son of Juan and Concha Acosta, who came to the United States from Mexico in the 1950s as part of a federal program that solicited workers to build railroads. In 1978, at Lubbock Christian College, Oscar was named an All-American pitcher by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. He played minor league baseball for three years with the Philadelphia Phillies and one year in the Mexican League before a torn rotator cuff ended his pitching career. He began his professional coaching career in 1988 in the minor leagues, working for the Texas Rangers and the New York Yankees organizations and the Columbus Clippers of the international league, and he moved to the major league as a pitching coach for the Chicago Cubs in 2000 and 2001 and for the Texas Rangers in 2002. While with the Chicago Cubs, he helped to turn around one of the national league's worst pitching staffs and in 2001, his pitchers set a major league record with one thousand three hundred four strikeouts. He rejoined the Yankee's organization in 2004 as manager of its Gulf Coast League team where his skills netted the team league championships in 2004 and 2005 and earned him the title "Manager of the Year" in 2004.

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Oscar Acosta and Humberto Trejo were tragically killed in an automobile accident on April 19, 2006 while they were on a scouting trip to the Dominican Republic. Oscar Acosta was a tough, intense coach who taught his pitchers mental toughness and how to be mentally prepared for the game and while Oscar loved baseball and the young men he coached, his greatest love was his family. He was a man molded by the hard life of rural poverty, steeped in the values of Old Mexico and the Eastern Plains of New Mexico, and he held dear the lessons he learned from his parents and his community about the value of persistence and hard work and the importance of respect and love of family.

The Senate of the State of New Mexico requests that New Mexico's native son, Oscar Acosta, be recognized for his many accomplishments and that heartfelt condolences be extended to the family and friends of Oscar Acosta.

BS/csd