

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

SPONSOR Moore ORIGINAL DATE 1/19/08
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 58
SHORT TITLE ENMU Small-Museum Professional Program SB _____
ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$260.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 58 appropriates \$260.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of Eastern New Mexico University to create a small-museum professional certification program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$260.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

This request was not submitted by ENMU to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY09.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states The ENMU College of Fine Arts currently does not offer programs related to small museum professional certification. To date the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) has not received from ENMU such a program for consultation and review. New

graduate degree programs are subject to NMHED consultation, review, and approval, as well as State Board of Finance approval for state funding to the universities.

According to the DCA, an academic program focused on the needs of small museums is needed to raise professional standards and practices, improve the care of their collections and enhance the visitor experience, which will increase attendance and expand the potential of these museums to play active roles in the quality of life, education, and economic vitality of the communities they serve. There are more than 150 museums and museum-related institutions in New Mexico. The majority of these institutions are small with fewer than ten staff people and annual budgets under \$1 million, and most are much smaller than that. Dotting New Mexico's vast geographic expanse, they serve communities that are culturally diverse and primarily rural, low-income and traditionally under-served. They operate with few if any paid staff members—many are all-volunteer organizations. These dedicated community servants have few opportunities for professional training or professional development.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Eastern New Mexico University in an email to the LFC Higher Education analyst has indicated that House Bill 58 has no relationship to any ENMU campus.

GH/nt