

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

ORIGINAL DATE 01/23/08

SPONSOR Irwin LAST UPDATED _____ HB 88

SHORT TITLE WNMU Instructional TV Needs SB _____

ANALYST Escudero

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$118.6	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 88 appropriates \$118.6 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of Western New Mexico University for Instructional Television Needs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$118.6 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.

HED states that a request was submitted by WNMU in the amount of \$244,735 to the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) for review. The Department's funding recommendation for FY09 is a continuance of FY08 recurring funding in the amount of \$128,600.

The HED's evaluation table of FY09 Research and Public Service Projects provided to the LFC classifies this project as a "would not oppose if funding available" project. Reasons for this

classification decision are not provided. (LFC Report 07-20, Higher Education Department Review of Selected Research and Public Service Projects, January 12, 2008, Table 4, p76.)

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to HED, WNMU Media Services provides instructional television (ITV), video conferencing, and other audio-visual services to WNMU students. These funds would be used to fund instructional television needs and to complete necessary upgrades to support the increase in the ITV demand at WNMU. These resources also support concurrent enrollment and dual enrollment students at the surrounding public schools.

PME/jp