

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 1/23/2008

SPONSOR Cervantes LAST UPDATED _____ HB 143

SHORT TITLE NMSU National Security and Diplomacy Program SB _____

ANALYST Baca

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico State University (NMSU)
Department of Higher Education (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 143 appropriates \$300,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) for expenditure in FY09 to develop curricula for a national security and diplomacy studies program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY09 shall revert to the general fund.

A request in the amount of \$200,000 was submitted by New Mexico State University to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review, but is not included in the Department's executive funding recommendation for FY09.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMSU notes the university has a rare opportunity to become a leading provider of graduates who are scientifically educated professionals for the United States Government (USG) in the areas of national security and diplomacy. The vision for the NSDS marries the most pressing needs of the USG in the areas of intelligence and foreign policy with the needs of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to expand its academic curriculum and obtain more resources to enlarge graduate-level research and studies. The proposed program intends to combine both national security and diplomacy studies making it the first ever-such program for NMSU and the nation. This program will ultimately include bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees.

The HED analysis concurs with the NMSU observations.

LRB/mt