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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/18/08

SPONSOR T. Garcia LAST UPDATED _____ HB 166

SHORT TITLE Mora County Sheriff's Office Personnel SB _____

ANALYST Propst

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$35.0	Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 166, Making an Appropriation to Increase the Salaries of Mora County Sheriff's Office Personnel, appropriates \$35 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Finance and Administration for the purpose of supplementing for one year the salaries of deputies and dispatchers in the sheriff's office of Mora County.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$35 thousand contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY09 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Mora County's overall fiscal condition does not allow them to staff county law enforcement at a salary that is comparable to other agencies. Currently the Mora County Sheriff's Department is the lowest paid department. Non-certified deputies start at \$9.00 per hour and certified start at \$10 per hour. The Mora County Sheriff's office has been at the same rate of pay for years.

House Bill 166 – Page 2

Employees don't stay since they are able to get better pay elsewhere. They spend approximately \$20 thousand for each deputy they send to training which includes the academy, uniform and fuel.

Mora County doesn't have a jail and has to transport offenders to San Miguel, Taos or Guadalupe County for housing. Sometimes San Miguel will send the offender to Cibola and when the Mora County Sheriff's Department goes to pick up the offender for court, they have to spend more time and money to go further.

The proposed legislation is aimed at supplementing for one year the salaries of deputies and dispatchers in the sheriff's office of Mora County. DFA notes that concern of what will happen with their salaries in the future years.

WEP/mt