

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 1/22/08

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NMSU Underrepresented Students Alliance SB 74

ANALYST Cox

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$270.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

NMSU Underrepresented Students Alliance – (NMSU-USA)

Higher Education Department – (HED)

New Mexico State University – (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 74 would appropriate two hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$270,000) from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for expenditure in fiscal year 2009 to pay for recruitment and retention efforts of the Alliance for Underrepresented Students.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of two hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$270,000) 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.

The Higher Education Department includes this project in its recommendation and states that it would not oppose the bill if funding is available.

The HED's evaluation table of FY09 Research and Public Service Projects provided to the LFC

classifies this project as a “supports state priorities” 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, p73.)

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Underrepresented Students Alliance (NMSU-USA) states that this Bill will expand community activities, contributing to recruitment, retention, and progression at community colleges. Specifically, this Bill is aimed at ‘at-risk’ freshman engineering students, expanding the number and range of mentoring activities, and expending support activities at NMSU M-TEC laboratory (a manufacturing program facility for hands on design at NMSU).

PRC/mt