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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/24/08

SPONSOR Rawson LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE NMSU Nursing Education Program SB 104

ANALYST Haug

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$1,925.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relationship SB77, SB14, HB97, HB185, HB66

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)  
 New Mexico State University (NMSU)  
 Department of Health (DOH)  
 New Mexico Health Policy Commission (HPC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 104 appropriates \$1,925.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University to improve the Nursing Education Program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1,925.0 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.

The HED states that a request was submitted by NMSU in the amount of \$1,925,000 to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review. The Department's funding recommendation for FY09 is a continuance of FY08 recurring funding in the amount of \$774,700 with no additional funding at this time.

The HED's evaluation table of FY09 Research and Public Service Projects provided to the LFC classifies this project as a "breach" of the Higher Education Formula. 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, p74.)

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

NMSU states:

This bill proposes to strengthen the existence of well-planned curriculum of four specific nursing programs. The BSN program is offered as a four year traditional program and as an accelerated (Roadrunner) program in which students seeking a second degree are able to become registered nurses within a 16 month period. In addition, the RN-BSN program with partnering branch sites at Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Doña Ana, and Farmington offers its courses via interactive TV and contributes to the increase of baccalaureate prepared nurses. The MSN program with four distinct tracks (administration, adult health, community/public health, and mental health) prepares both clinical practitioners as well as administrators. In addition, the MSN offers a minor in nursing education improving the faculty shortage. All the courses in the MSN program are offered online; thus increasing their accessibility. The newly established PhD program prepares individuals to assume leadership roles in academia and health care settings, emphasizing teaching, research, and professional service activities.

Two HRSA grants that were funded three years ago were not re-funded for Academic Year 07-08. (HED notes that HRSA grants are for a short period and for start-up and require continuation by the institution or by the state.) These grants benefited the accelerated BSN program and the mental health program. Both of these programs grew more than 75% and graduates have done remarkably well in certifying examinations. Recurring funding is desirable to position NMSU and the school of nursing as major producers of quality graduates. The traditional four year BSN program currently admits 48 students. The School of Nursing's plan is to increase the admissions to total 112 by fall 2008. This represents a 57 % increase in enrollment which increases tuition and fees revenues. There is a need to fund these programs with a well established base in order for them to develop into state and nationally known entities.

The HPC states that there are nineteen (19) programs of nursing in New Mexico; sixteen (16) public schools programs and three (3) proprietary programs. Fifteen programs (15) function under full approval status, one program functions under conditional approval status and three (3) programs function under initial approval status granted by the New Mexico Board of Nursing. Two of these programs offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, five (5) programs offer an Associate Degree in Nursing, eleven (11) programs offer both an Associate Degree in Nursing and a Practical Nursing Certificate and one program offers a Practical Nursing Certificate. Two (2) of the programs that offer a Practical Nursing Certificate; APS Career Enrichment Center and Clovis Community College, combine their programs with high school education. NM citizens receive nursing care from students enrolled in these programs under supervision of faculty and facility nurses and other health care providers. New Mexico State University is included the list of programs of Nursing approved by the New Mexico Board of Nursing. *Source: Board of Nursing Annual Report for the Fiscal Year (July1, 2006-June 30, 2007).*

**RELATIONSHIP**

SB 104 is related to:

Senate Bill 14, Health Professional Recruitment & Retention

Senate Bill 77 would appropriate six hundred sixty-four thousand six hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$664,658) from the general fund to the Board of Regents of Western New Mexico University for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2009 to expand the nursing program and to adjust nursing faculty salaries in order to retain qualified staff.

House Bill 185 would appropriate \$2,237,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for expenditures in Fiscal Year 2009 for the College of Nursing to expand enrollment and alleviate the shortage of nurses in NM.

House Bill 66 would appropriate \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09) to expand the Carlsbad Campus Nursing Program.

House Bill 97, NMSU-Grants Nursing Clinical Lab.

**GH/sec**