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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/29/08

SPONSOR P. Campos LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Luna College Santa Fe Trail Institute SB 402

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Luna Community College (LCC)

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 402 appropriates \$150.0 from the general fund to the Higher Education Department to establish the Institute on the Santa Fe trail, a study center devoted to research, publication and interpretive materials concerning the early founding of New Mexico under Spain, Mexico and the United States, at Luna Community College.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150.0 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.

This request was not submitted by Luna Community College to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY09.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states that the Institute on the Santa Fe Trail is a study center devoted to research, publication, and interpretive materials concerning the early founding of New Mexico under Spain, Mexico, and the United States at Luna Community College. Funds in this proposal will be used to hire a historian, who will work with graduate students in developing an interpretive center and curricula. The creation of the center and production of educational materials are much needed in this area rich in history. The institute will be housed at Luna Community College and will serve as an economic development initiative aimed to stimulate historical interest and economic activity. An interpretive center will contribute to the sustainability of the program.

According to LCC, an establishment of this type will enhance the study, knowledge base and resources available for individuals conducting research on the early founding of New Mexico under Spain, Mexico and the United States.

GH/mt