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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/11/10  
 LAST UPDATED 02/13/10 HJM 60/aHEC

SPONSOR Picraux

SHORT TITLE UNM Humanities Research & Teaching Center SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Pava

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From:

Public Education Dept. (PED)

Higher Education Dept. (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee amendment to House Joint Memorial 60 adds the phrase “the New Mexico congressional delegation” to those who are to have copies of the memorial transmitted to their office.

#### Synopsis of Original Bill

House Joint Memorial 60 proposes a legislative endorsement of University of New Mexico’s (UNM) Humanities Research and Teaching Center, including supporting UNM’s application for a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant. It encourages the Public Education Department (PED), Higher Education Department (HED) Cultural Affairs Department (CAD), and other relevant agencies to work with the Humanities Research and Training Center to develop programs, knowledge and resources to help students understand and address 21<sup>st</sup> century local and global issues.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

### **PED indicates:**

- The College and Career Ready Policy Institute (CCRPI) Action Plan includes an action item for state agencies and state research universities to work together to ensure research to improve P-20 education. Leadership from PED, HED and other agencies and organizations identified state agency/university research partnerships as an important part of the CCRPI Action Plan; this joint memorial includes a research component as well.
- Indian Education Act and Native language and culture teacher certification both identify the need for the Native language research and Native teacher pre-service and in-service training in language revitalization. Native language research and professional development are identified in HJM 60.
- The new Hispanic Education Liaison and, if HB 150/SB 131 pass, the Hispanic Education Act, will use research specific to the state on Hispanic education issues, as mentioned in HJM 60.

Over the past six years, there has been a reduction in PED staffing for Humanities content specialists, which currently only have expertise in art and music. HJM 60 indicates professional development of teachers and administrators by faculty with expertise in Humanities could be fulfilled through the UNM Humanities Research and Training Center (HRTC).

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

### **HED indicates:**

In the most general sense, the humanities are the study of human culture with particular emphasis on the liberal arts. Within their traditional university setting, the humanities encompass a variety of disciplines and degree programs and include fields such as American Studies, Latin American Studies, Women's Studies, Native American Studies, and African American Studies, to name a few. The humanities faculty at UNM seeks to expand efforts in public programming by developing curricula and resources around the issues of globalism, strategies for language, and cultural preservation and instruction. There are various existing campus-wide initiatives and institutes that encompass and complement much of what HJM60 seeks.

These include: the Alfonso Ortiz Center that offers training programs for underrepresented or disadvantaged groups at UNM; the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute is interdisciplinary for the study of the Chicano; the Center for Regional Studies seeks to create new sources of knowledge about New Mexico and the U. S. - Mexico Borderlands region; and the American Indian Language Policy Research and Teacher Training Center does collaborative research concerning the survival and maintenance of American Indian languages.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Increased teacher training in Humanities could positively impact student achievement as measured by the Standards Based Assessment.

## **COMPANIONSHIP OR RELATIONSHIP**

HJM 60 supports state agency and university collaboration and the research concepts in SJM 23 proposing the Educational Research and Reform Consortium.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

HED indicates:

With the above mentioned programs, centers and institutes, it appears that the endorsement of a Humanities Teaching and Research Center (HTRC) at UNM may overlap with some already existing programs. The intent of HJM 60 is to support UNM's grant application to receive funding from the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) challenge grant program. UNM has received NEH funding in the past. Fundamentally, in order for programs to be sustainable, UNM will need to seek additional funding partnerships and collaborate with some of the above mentioned institutes and centers in order to avoid duplication of efforts and funding sources.

The New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) is located on the UNM campus. Although not a direct academic affiliate to the Humanities program, the NMHC is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the humanities to public audiences throughout New Mexico. NMHC is funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of New Mexico's Department of Cultural Affairs, and private and corporate support. According to the NMHC website, the current grant from NEH meets about 40% of the total costs of NMHC activities while support from the State of New Mexico meets about 10% of NMHC total costs. The remaining costs are met with cash and in-kind contributions from other sources including individual and corporate support. With UNM's endorsement of HJM 60, UNM will need to define roles and responsibilities of existing campus programs that fit into the center's mission.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?**

Existing University of New Mexico centers and institutes that encompass humanities-based programs will continue to operate at the same level of funding support.

PED notes: The Legislature will not provide endorsement for the Humanities Research and Training Center's application for Challenge Grant funding from the Endowment for the Humanities. As a result, PED, HED, CAD and other state agencies will not be encouraged to work with the Research and Training Center through this House Joint Memorial 60.

CP/svb:mew