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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/11/10

SPONSOR Morales LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NM Tech Center for Border Security SJM 53

ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SJM 26

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (Tech)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 53 requests the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology to establish a center for border security to partner with state and local organizations seeking federal funds to counter violence at the United States and Mexico border and to provide education, training, research and technical assistance in order to garner more resources in the effort to stem the violence along the United States and Mexico border.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact in this memorial. Tech has requested this memorial to indicate to the federal government that the State of New Mexico supports these efforts. This memorial will enable Tech to receive federal funds. Tech has no intent to request further state funding to establish the center to counter violence at the United States and Mexico border.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Tech's primary mission is to educate the next generation of scientists and engineers. In recent years, Tech has branched out into educational activities related to national security. In 2009, Tech won a competitive grant for \$994,000 from the Department of Justice to educate non-federal law enforcement officers in New Mexico and Arizona to combat drug trafficking and related violence in border areas.

Tech operates a graduate-level professional law enforcement curriculum at the International Law Enforcement Academy in Roswell, a program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Tech also operates the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium First Responder program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. NM Tech currently receives \$701,100 from the general fund for the Homeland Security Center and owns a town near the US-Mexico Border for security training.

Of significant note is that New Mexico is one of four states that are joining together to form the Southwest Border Security Consortium (SBSC) as a way to promote scientific and policy solutions for issues affecting the U.S.-Mexico border region. The announcement was made at ComDef Tucson 2006, an international conference in Tucson on technologies for border security, defense and commerce.

Participating institutions include Arizona State University, the University of Arizona, New Mexico State University, the University of New Mexico (UNM), San Diego State University, Texas A & M Engineering, the University of Texas at El Paso, the University of Texas at San Antonio and Tech. Capabilities of the SBSC institutions span a broad range of areas relevant to border and homeland security issues, including:

- Agricultural and supply-chain security.
- Behavioral and social aspects of terrorism and counterterrorism.
- Bioscience, biotechnology and public health.
- Critical infrastructure and natural resources protection.
- Cyber and information security.
- Detection and surveillance.
- Educational outreach, training and technical assistance.
- Emergency management and response.
- Energetic materials research and testing.
- Intelligent transportation design and traffic surveillance.
- Legal infrastructures.
- Multimodal transportation security.
- Regional and cultural issues.
- Border economic, legal, political, policy and trade issues.
- Social modeling and analysis.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Tech and other New Mexico colleges and universities are already very active to in providing education, training, research and technical assistance in order to garner more resources in order to stem the violence along the United States and Mexico border.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Joint Memorial 26 urges comprehensive immigration reform which includes among other elements efficient border security.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

There are programs and centers at New Mexico’s postsecondary institutions that focus on border security and educational programs. For example, New Mexico State University (NMSU) Center for Border and Indigenous Educational Leadership mission is to improve education in the U.S.-Mexico border communities through preparation and professional development. Some of the NMSU goals are to initiate and engage in collaborative school leadership research in the areas of multicultural leadership, social justice, and border and rural educational issues and serve as a permanent resource for policy makers regarding the educational needs of New Mexico students, including those students with linguistic and cultural differences.

The Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI) is the hub for all Latin American related programming at UNM including research and scholarship, community outreach, conferences and events, and the interdisciplinary programs in Latin American Studies. It provides university-wide support for Latin American and Iberian activities in all of UNM's 11 schools and colleges. Its mission is to create an environment for producing and ex-changing knowledge of Latin America within and beyond the UNM community.

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