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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/11/11  
 LAST UPDATED 03/16/11    HB 472/aHCPAC

SPONSOR Hall

SHORT TITLE Transfer Approving Division to Higher Ed Dept    SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Esquibel

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		\$166.0	\$166.0	\$498.0	Recurring	Federal Funds

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Veterans' Services Department (VSD)

Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of HCPAC Amendments

The House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee amendments to HB472 provide for the following:

- Restructure the Higher Education Department by deleting the Public Information and Communications Division, the Information Technology Division, the Public Schools Liaison Division, the American-Indian Postsecondary Education Division; and
- Create an Equity and Access Division.

#### Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 472 transfers the State Approving Division from the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) to the Higher Education Department (HED).

The State Approving Division is responsible for direct contact with colleges and universities to approve programs for VA Educational benefits.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The state approving agency is funded through a federal contract, so under the provisions of HB472, the contract would be administered by HED. The federal contract is \$166,000 for

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federal FY10 and includes salaries, travel costs and administrative costs.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

House Bill 472 would place into statute the executive order issued by former Governor Richardson transferring the duties of the State Approving Agency (SAA) to HED. Since HED has more direct contact with colleges and universities it was a better fit than DVS. The majority of states have the SAA within either their Public Education Department or their Higher Education Department.

RAE/bym