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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/2012

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NM Tech Summer Science Program SB 128

ANALYST Hartzler-Toon

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY12	FY13		
	50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section 4, J Higher Education, New Mexico Institute for Mining and Technology.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department

Response Not Received From
New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

The NM Tech Summer Science Program bill appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to NM Tech for the purpose of hosting a summer science program during 2012.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill would add a special project and appropriate \$50 thousand in general fund to support a summer science program for high school students. According to the HED, the appropriation would allow NM Tech to offer facilities to the summer program for a discounted rate; the program then applies the discounted amount to support New Mexico students.

The summer program serves students from around the world. Lasting six weeks, the program provides college-level lectures, research activities, tours of research sites. The curriculum is organized around a central research project, with students working in small groups on project

components. At the end of six weeks, each student will have acquired many hours of experience with the collection, measurement, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of scientific data. The Legislative Education Study Committee receives regular testimony from students and other stakeholders on the program successes.

The program has received past general fund appropriations, the last in FY10. For FY13, NM Tech did not request restoration of general support for this program through the HED process for reviewing and recommending special projects for appropriation.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There are no administrative implications. The summer science program is held annually, and the staffing and administration of the program remains intact throughout the year.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The HED has noted that NM Tech will not be able to provide sufficient student financial aid to students wishing to participate in the program. During the 2011 program, 32 students, of the total 72, received financial aid to attend the program.

THT/amm