

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SB 501

51st Legislature, 1st Session, 2013

Tracking Number: .192703.1

Short Title: Technology Collaborative

Sponsor(s): Senator Timothy M. Keller

Analyst: Travis Dulany

Date: March 1, 2013

Bill Summary:

SB 501 makes an appropriation to support the Council of University Presidents' development of a technology research collaborative.

Fiscal Impact:

\$500,000 is appropriated to the Board of Regents of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NMIMT). Unexpended or unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund at the end of FY 14.

Fiscal Issues:

According to the Legislative Finance Committee Fiscal Impact Report, the appropriation contained in SB 501 is a recurring expense to the General Fund.

Substantive Issues:

Related legislation – HB 562 and SB 571 – would establish a framework for a technology research collaborative; however, that legislation does not contain an appropriation.

Background:

Statutory provisions were enacted in 2005 to establish the Technology Research Collaborative, with NMIMT serving as the fiscal agent. However, that statute was repealed in 2009 and the property of the collaborative was transferred to the Economic Development Department. Participating institutions associated with the collaborative included:

- national laboratories;
- other major research institutes; and
- all the postsecondary institutions of New Mexico.

According to the Council of University Presidents' website, the Council:

“...supports New Mexico's seven public universities through information sharing, collaboration, strategic planning, policy development, and community outreach. The Council represents university efforts based on shared goals and a shared vision that fully recognizes and supports the unique strengths of each university. To these ends, the Council focuses on student success, economic development, research and public service and promotes the outstanding efforts of university faculty and staff. The Council recognizes that the well being of the institutions, their faculty, staff and students and the broader public of New Mexico are one and the same.”

Committee Referrals:

SEC/SFC

Related Bills:

SB 571 *Technology Research Collaborative*

HB 562 *Create Technology Research Collaborative*