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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/11/2020

SPONSOR Lundstrom LAST UPDATED _____ HM 52

SHORT TITLE Gallup Indian Center Study SB _____

ANALYST Hawker

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY20	FY21	FY22	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		Indeterminate	Indeterminate	Indeterminate		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
City of Farmington *FY2019 Budget Presentation*

Responses Received From
Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 52 requests the Indian Affairs Department initiate a feasibility study of a new Gallup Indian center, seeking advice from the Pueblo of Zuni and the Navajo Nation.

Copies of HM52 are to be transmitted to the Secretary of Indian Affairs, Mayor of the City of Gallup, Chair of the McKinley County Board of Commissioners, Governor of the Pueblo of Zuni and President of the Navajo Nation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Indian Affairs Department (IAD) is unclear on the scope of the feasibility study. The department believes it may be able to use some funding from their special appropriation on urban Indian centers to fund the study.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Indian centers have provided an urban community home for the urban Indian population to conduct ceremonies, maintain cultural practices, speak ancestral languages and to build community. Approximately 70 percent of American Indians and Alaskan Natives live in urban areas. New Mexico currently has three Indian centers, located in Albuquerque, Farmington and

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Santa Fe. The center in Farmington is operated by the city, the other two centers are non-profit organizations.

There had been an Indian Center in Gallup. The Hozho Center is the only center currently serving the Native American population in Gallup. Per IAD it focuses on providing services to veterans.

According to IAD:

“Indian Centers have historically served the Native American population, particularly the urban Indian population, with emergency housing assistance; homeless outreach; food distribution and meals; substance abuse treatment; social services; emergency financial services; referral services; voter registration; career services; and enrichment programs, among many other services.”

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Gallup Indian Center could be similar to the Farmington Indian Center (FIC). According to the City of Farmington, the FIC provides: a place for relaxation, socialization and information gathering to assist American Indians and other citizens in the Farmington area; a cultural bridge between multi-cultural citizens by servicing customers of all races and offering seven annual public cultural events; an environment that is comfortable for older American Indians who speak limited or no English. Services provided by the FIC include a restaurant serving Navajo cuisine, shower and restroom facilities, public information, copy and fax services, transit schedules, inter and intra-city referrals, Navajo Nation voter registration, notary public, community worker placement, and facility usage (showers, restroom, public park, conference room). Recently the FIC hosted two cultural events: keshjee’ (Navajo shoe game) and O Shi Heart Craft Sale.

VKH/sb