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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lopez/Roybal/ Caballero **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/2/2020
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** _____
SHORT TITLE Southwest Hispanic Research Institute Funding **SB** 129
ANALYST Valenzuela

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------|---------------|
| FY20 | FY21 | | |
| | \$240.0 | Recurring | General Fund |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

University of New Mexico (UNM)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 129 appropriates \$240 thousand from the general fund to the University of New Mexico to provide funding for the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$240 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY21 shall revert to the general fund.

Last year, the state appropriated \$1.1 million to the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute (SHRI). The FY21 LFC appropriation recommendation maintains SHRI funding at the current level. According to UNM, 56 percent of the funding is used for faculty or staff salaries and administrative expenses, 22 percent is used for graduate student fellowships, 13 percent for library assistantships, and 6 percent for assistantships for the New Mexico Historical Review.

In FY19, SHRI awarded \$218 thousand to 17 graduates students under its fellowship program

(average award of \$12.8 thousand); \$129 thousand to eight graduate students under its library assistantships program (average award of \$16.1 thousand); \$60 thousand to hire five graduate students for the New Mexico Historical Review (average award of \$12 thousand), and \$45 thousand for three graduate students for its named fellowship program (average award of \$15 thousand).

The \$240 thousand would be used to support more students, and for additional staff to oversee undergraduate and graduate student research internships and provide additional funding for operational costs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SHRI is a research and public service project (RPSP) at the University of New Mexico. Its stated mission is to promote the quest for knowledge about New Mexico, the U.S.-Mexico borderland region, the Americas and Iberia.

MFV/sb