Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov).

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Pinto		0	ORIGINAL DATE 02/04/21 LAST UPDATED 02/23/21				
SHORT TITI	LE _	Fund Bureau of In	dian Education		SJM	1/aSRC/aSEC	
		ANAI				Becerra	

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response Received
Attorney General (NMAG)
Indian Affairs Department (IAD)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SEC Amendment

The Senate Education Committee amendment to Senate Joint Memorial 1 (SJM1) deletes the language that listed individual Indian Nation presidents that should receive a copy of the memorial and instead reads "the tribal leadership of all twenty-three Indian nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico."

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

The Senate Rules Committee amendment to Senate Joint Memorial 1 (SJM1) adds the chair of the Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma and New Mexico to the list of individuals to which a copy of the memorial should be sent.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 1 (SJM1) requests the United States Congress to forward fund the Bureau of Indian Education Higher Education Grant Program so that the Bureau of Indian Affairs administers the grant program and provides higher education scholarships to Indian college students.

Senate Joint Memorial 1/aSRC/aSEC - Page 2

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed that the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SJM1 does not contain an appropriation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SJM1 notes that the result of the federal government operating under continuing resolutions, results in delayed funding to the bureau of Indian affairs, consequently delaying payment of college scholarships and institutional disbursements and proving problematic for Indian college students who depend on scholarship payment to cover educational expenses.

Additionally, SJM1 notes that forward funding provides funding for two years in advance, making the funds available on July 1 of each year, thus, allowing tribes to disburse grant funds ahead of the academic year.

SJM1 requests the Legislature ask the United States congress to take affirmative steps to forward fund the higher education grant program of the bureau of Indian education.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Any outcome of SJM1 would be operated by the bureau of Indian Affairs, but the higher education grant program would be administered by numerous Indian tribes pursuant to Public Law 93-638 (self-determination contracts) or Public Law 100-472 (self-governance compacts).

MB/al/rl/al