

LFC Requester:

Connor Jorgensen

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](http://AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto:billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov)*(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)***SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION***{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*Date Prepared: 01/29/2026

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB 169Original  Correction Amendment  Substitute Sponsor: Rep. Anita Gonzales, Sen. Linda Lopez, Rep. Patricia Roybal  
Caballero.

Agency Name

and Code

University of New Mexico-952

Number:

Short Title: UNM Dept. Of Chicana &

Person Writing

Lenaya MontoyaTitle: Chicano StudiesPhone: 5754187595Email lenayamontoya@unm.edu**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT****APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
	\$250.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		250				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

## **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: HB 169 provides a \$250,000 appropriation to the University of New Mexico for the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies. This bill will offer funding to support year-round scholarships for the Curanderismo Traditional Medicine institute (CTMI) and for year-round statewide community outreach, participant recruitment and engagement. This bill will also provide the funds to conduct research on traditional medicine and establish collaborations with community-based organizations that will lead to the creation of two new courses and learning experiences for New Mexicans.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Students participating in the program will be able to attend the CTMI for either no cost or at a lower cost thanks to the scholarships provided for by the funding in this bill. For the summer face-to-face intensive course, many of the participants from outside of the Albuquerque will lodge and have meals throughout the city. Therefore, the city will also experience a positive fiscal and economic impact.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

We see an outstanding potential for reclaiming, preserving, researching and educating the community on traditional healing methods for minor illnesses and behavioral health needs using the knowledge and wisdom of our New Mexican ancestors with natural elements that have been used for hundred of years. Students will learn how to treat behavioral problems using traditional medicine and preparing first aid kits by learning how to prepare herbal-based tinctures and water-based micro doses, as well as herbal liniments and ointment for minor health issues, and refer major illnesses to physicians.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

This bill will strengthen the face-to-face attendance in the summer of many New Mexicans in rural, tribal, and impoverished communities and/or online courses offered online statewide. Work-study students and assistants will be employed to support the implementation of online community resources made available by this program, promotion, and community engagement. The University of New Mexico is the only higher educational institution currently offering an established program on traditional medicine including courses, conference, study-abroad, an academic undergraduate certificate. Future plans include the creation of two additional certificates.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Although there is a great interest to offer traditional medicine courses, language implications limit the education efforts, therefore we will include interpreters, translators, editors, and textual captions in Spanish for all English content and English interpretation, translation and captions for all Spanish language content.

### **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

Dr. Mario Del Angel Guevara will serve as the coordinator. The impact on staff in the Chicana and Chicano Studie department will be minimal.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

The University of New Mexico will not be able to serve the residents of New Mexico statewide in the field of New Mexican traditional medicine.

## **AMENDMENTS**