

LFC Requester:	LFC
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2026 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Click all that apply:

Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date Prepared: 2026-01-28
Bill No: HB170

Sponsor: Anaya, Marianna
UNM BASIC NEEDS
Short Title: PROJECT

Agency Name and Code NMHED
Number: _____
Person Writing: Weber, Jody
jody.weber@hed.nm.gov
Phone: 5053940030 **Email:** gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
N/A	\$1,400.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue	Recurring	Fund Affected

FY26	FY27	FY28	or Nonrecurring	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(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

This bill appropriates \$1.4 million (\$1,400,000) from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for use in FY27 to support UNM's Basic Needs Project. Any funds not spent by the end of FY27 will revert to the General Fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

UNM did not submit this request to the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) for possible incorporation into the NMHED comprehensive funding recommendation. NMHED has a formal process for reviewing earmarked budget requests for higher education institutions when developing NMHED funding recommendations.

HB170 does not specify any reporting requirements or set measurable targets for its Basic Needs Project.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 will revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the 2023 New Mexico Basic Needs in Higher Education Report, 58% of college students in NM reported food insecurity in the year the survey was taken, and 62% reported housing insecurity, with 14% experiencing homelessness, indicating widespread basic needs struggles that undermine students' ability to stay engaged in their studies. The statewide report notes that students facing basic needs insecurity were more likely to withdraw from classes, a factor that contributes to New Mexico's low degree completion rate, where only about 40% of students who start a college degree complete one, underscoring the connection between meeting basic needs and graduation outcomes.

HB170 does not define basic needs or specify what areas would be addressed with the funding.

HB170 does not indicate how students who need support would be identified.

HB170 does not specify how the money would be administered or distributed to students in need.

HB170 does not indicate any processes for determining if the funds are having a positive impact on participating students.

HB170 does not contain any language specifying reporting or accountability for the funds.

The UNM Basic Needs Project became a statewide organization, the New Mexico Basic Needs Consortium (NMBNC), in 2023.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

While no performance reporting is included in the bill, it will be appropriate for UNM to report on how the funds are distributed and how many students are served.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation will be administered by UNM.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

UNM will not receive funding to support its Basic Needs Project.

AMENDMENTS

N/A