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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Lujan	DATE TYPED:	02/09/00	HB	367/aHAGC
SHORT TITLE:	Acequia and Community Ditch Fund			SB	
				ANALYST:	Pacheco-Perez

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01		
	\$ 500.0			Rec	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HAGC Amendment

The amendment changes the appropriation from reverting to non-reverting.

Synopsis of Original Bill

This bill appropriates \$500.0 from the general fund to the Acequia and Community Ditch Fund for the purpose of providing assistance to associations involved in the adjudication process. No more than 5% of the appropriation may be expended by the NMDA for administrative costs incurred in the administration of the Fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY01 shall revert to the general fund.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

According to the CHE, appropriations are historically made to NMDA or the New Mexico State University Board of Regents as they have fiduciary responsibility over NMDA.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

According to the NMDA, New Mexico citizens stand to lose water rights if funds are not provided for adjudications.

The CHE recommends that the following language be included for all new recurring higher education programs: "A plan for a program evaluation, including specific program goals and criteria for assessing program effectiveness shall be submitted to the LFC and the CHE by October 1, 2000. An assessment of the program will be completed prior to June 30, 2001 and submitted to the LFC and the CHE."

APP/gm