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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Adair	DATE TYPED:	02-08-00	HB	
SHORT TITLE:	Study Creation Theory			SB	SJM 47
				ANALYST:	Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC files, State Department of Education (SDE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 47 requests that the State Board of Education (SBE) allow the use of material in the class for the study of creation theory.

Significant Issues

The New Mexico Science Content Standards adopted by the SBE require that the theory of biological evolution be taught. Following many highly publicized discussions, SBE voted not to include creation theory in the content standards.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

According to the SDE analysis, "the U.S. Supreme Court has established that 'creation science' may not be taught in the public schools." Several cases are cited to support the statement and two are cited here: Edwards v. Aguillard, 482 U.S. 578 (1987) and McLean v. Arkansas Board of Education, 529 F. Supp. 1255 (1982).

LB/gm