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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Nunez DATE TYPED: 2/27/03 HB 622/aHEC

SHORT TITLE: Licensure of NonAccredited Schools SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: L. Baca

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

#### Responses Received From

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The amendment adopted by the House Education Committee strikes “MAKING AN APPROPRIATION” from the bills title because the bill carries no appropriation.

#### Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 622 amends the Post-Secondary Educational Institution Act, which covers private proprietary post-secondary institutions. The amended statutory changes include: clarifying definitions in the statute, adding an exemption for brief courses of instruction, requiring degree-granting institutions to obtain accreditation from an agency recognized by the US Dept. of Education, adding proposed wording clarifying the various types of disciplinary action that may be taken and allowing the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) to charge an administrative fee based on actual cost of service.

#### Significant Issues

This bill clarifies and simplifies language regarding private post-secondary schools and reliance on accreditation by a U.S. Department of Education-recognized accrediting body for those pri-

vate schools offering degrees will help assure academic quality.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

According to the CHE, authorizing the charge of administrative fees will bring fee schedules into line with surrounding states. The CHE provided the table below showing a sample of fees from surrounding states:

	<b>Arizona</b>	<b>Colorado</b>	<b>Texas</b>
<b>Change of Location</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<b>Change of Name</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>New School Packet</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$15</b>

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The bill’s title contains language “making an appropriation”, but there is no appropriation in the bill. Consequently, the language should be should be stricken from the title.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

This bill appears to strengthen the role of the CHE to establish and monitor guidelines for the licensure of all private post-secondary institutions operating in New Mexico.

1. Does the CHE support this bill?
2. What types of fees are currently charged by the CHE?
3. How will the CHE account for the monies collected for services provided?

LRB/yr/njw