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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Taylor, James DATE TYPED 02-12-05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE NM Highlands Athletic Programs SB 526

ANALYST Woods

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$250.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to the appropriation for New Mexico Highlands University in the General Appropriations Act.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response Received From

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 526 – Making an Appropriation for Athletic Programs at New Mexico Highlands University – appropriates \$250,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Highlands University for expenditure in FY06 for the following purposes:

- \$100,000 for a men’s wrestling program; and
- \$150,000 for a women’s rodeo program.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund.

Significant Issues

New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) indicates that it is affiliated with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) while competing at the Division II level. It is also a member of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) which includes 14 institutions in Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas and New Mexico. NMHU has ten athletic programs:

- men participate in football, cross country, basketball and baseball; while
- women participate in cross country, track, volleyball, soccer, basketball and softball.

This bill will permit NMHU to enhance its athletics curriculum with the addition of men's wrestling and women's rodeo programs.

This initiative was not included in the CHE's *2005-2006 Higher Education Funding Recommendation*.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

New Mexico Highlands University will retain oversight of this program.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to the appropriation for New Mexico Highlands University in the General Appropriations Act.

BFW/lg