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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/24/06

SPONSOR Moore LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 72

SHORT TITLE Curry County Vocational High School SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Earp

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$50.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Clovis Community College (CCC)  
 Higher Education Department (HED)  
 Public Education Department (PED)  
 Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 72 appropriates \$50,000 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Department for expenditure in fiscal year 2007 for Clovis Community College to develop a vocational high school for Curry County.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50,000 contained in this bill is identified as a non-recurring expense to the general fund. However, creation of a charter vocational high school following the completion of the planning process could have significant expenditure implications (operational and capital outlay) for the higher education and public school funding mechanisms, as well as the school districts in Curry County. No specific estimate of these potential future costs is available at this time. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining from the appropriation at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

While CCC would perform a lead roll in the development of the proposed charter high school, the actual establishment and administration of such a school would be subject to procedures outlined in the public education statutes and regulations relating to charter schools.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation in this bill is made to the “Higher Education Department ... for Clovis Community College to develop a vocational high school....” This language would require HED to administer the appropriation even though the proposed project is to be undertaken by CCC. No significant administrative impact is evident.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

Information provided by CCC indicates the appropriation requested in this bill would be used to evaluate multiple approaches to a vocational high school in order to identify a model that would best suit the needs of the area. The study would be conducted in cooperation with the Clovis and Texico school districts. Superintendents from those districts apparently approached CCC to participate in this project.

CCC currently administers a Technical Career Center (TCC), an area vocational school for high school students in twelve career fields. The TCC students meet Monday through Thursday from 12:40-2:40 on the CCC campus. The proposed new charter vocational high school would involve only three or four career fields and would be a full service high school. It is estimated that up to 500 students could be attracted to the school. No location has been identified for the proposed charter school, although it is possible that Clovis Municipal Schools may have a vacant facility available.

The Higher Education Department confirms that a dual credit program exists between CCC and the Clovis Public School District. The Clovis School District and CCC are partnering to create more vocational programs that would address the educational needs of the general and student population of Curry County, and as a result create a more skilled workforce. It is estimated that one-fourth of the high school graduates in Curry County earn bachelor's degrees while the remainder of the district's and county area high school graduates will pursue careers in vocational fields. The creation of a vocational high school would provide the means for the majority of the county's high school graduates to receive training in vocational fields that pay good salaries.

## **POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

What is the rationale for appropriating the funds to HED rather than directly to CCC?

DE/mt