

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/28/06

SPONSOR Balderas LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 281

SHORT TITLE NM Highlands Spanish Immersion Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Hoffmann

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$200.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Department of Higher Education (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 281 appropriates \$200,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) to support an English/Spanish and cultural immersion program and curricula development.

### 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 fiscal year 2007 shall not revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The amount of \$47,500 was appropriated for this purpose in Chapter 34, Laws of 2005 (Senate Bill 190). The Legislative Finance Committee funding recommendation for fiscal year 2007 has included this amount as a component of a block-grant appropriation to NMHU for special project

expansion. The Executive does not recommend continued funding at the \$47,500 level as a separate line-item appropriation. Approval of the appropriation in this bill would result in augmentation of the funding contained in the General Appropriation Act if the LFC recommendation is adopted.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

This program was not included in the budget request submitted to the New Mexico Higher Education Department. It was not reviewed by the Higher Education Department, and is not included in their recommendations.

CH/nt