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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/6/06

SPONSOR Stewart LAST UPDATED _____ HB 509

SHORT TITLE Bureau of Geology Publications SB _____

ANALYST Earp

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$25.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 509 appropriates \$25,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology to pay for the Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources publication expenses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$25,000 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 revert to the general fund. These funds would augment the recurring operating appropriation provided for the Bureau in the General Appropriation Act.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This proposal was not included among the special program funding requests submitted by NMTech to the Higher Education Department (HED) for review. Consequently, this proposal

has not been included in the HED fiscal year 2007 funding recommendations to the Legislature.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No significant administrative impact is apparent.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, established by legislation in 1927, is a research and service division of NMTech. It is a non-regulatory agency that serves as the geological survey for the State of New Mexico. The bureau's publishing program serves both the professional geologic community and the public, including special publications for more than 3,000 science teachers. Examples of publications include regional geologic guides in the Scenic Trip series and a free, semi-annual newsletter *New Mexico Earth Matters*.

A broad bureau goal is to promote New Mexico geology and provide information about current issues such as water, mining, reclamation, and earthquakes. This appropriation would supplement the existing operating budget and the revenues generated from the sale of publications. It is intended to aid the dissemination of printed materials such as Albuquerque basin maps and publications such as the *Decision Makers* series.

DKE/mt