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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-12-06

SPONSOR Mary Helen Garcia LAST UPDATED _____ HM 49

SHORT TITLE Border Water and Wastewater Needs Study SB _____

ANALYST Woods

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Memorial 49

House Memorial 49 requests the New Mexico Legislative Council Service to direct the appropriate legislative interim committee to conduct a study of the essential water and wastewater infrastructure needs of communities along the international border and to recommend an amount and a source of funding to meet those needs.

Specifically the memorial notes that:

- incorporated and unincorporated communities along the international border with Mexico are among the fastest growing communities in New Mexico and also are among the poorest; and
- the rapid growth of the communities has led to an increased need for adequate water and wastewater infrastructure; and
- the growth has also posed a challenge to administrators who continually strive to provide sufficient and affordable housing, utilities and other public services; and
- the federal environmental protection agency has lowered maximum arsenic containment levels for drinking water, and these levels cannot be met by many of the existing water systems without a substantial expenditure; and

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- the rapid growth of the communities and the income levels of the residents mean that the communities do not have the tax base to provide even a minimum acceptable level of water and wastewater infrastructure;

The memorial resolves the following:

- that the New Mexico legislative council be requested to direct the appropriate legislative interim committee to conduct a study of the essential water and wastewater infrastructure needs of incorporated and unincorporated communities along the international border with Mexico; and
- that the interim committee recommend the amount of funding that will be necessary to meet those essential needs and a source for that funding; and
- that the interim committee report its findings and recommendations to the first session of the forty-eighth legislature.

The legislation further resolves that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

There is no appropriation attached to this legislation.

BW/nt