

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 2/9/06

SPONSOR Robinson LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Film & Media Employment Training & Production SB 432

ANALYST Lewis

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 442 (Promote Film & Media Enterprises in NM).

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Economic Development Department (EDD)

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 432 appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund to the Higher Education Department to support film and media employment training and student productions.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500,000 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.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Public Education Department (PED), digital media and film represent significant economic development activities for New Mexico, but only if there is a skilled workforce to complete these projects.

Directors and producers who have taken advantage of recently instituted incentives to bring their projects to New Mexico have reported enjoying a beautiful and supportive environment but have had difficulty filling their crews with local talent. For the same reason, they have had to complete their post-production work outside New Mexico. Higher education could play a crucial role in reversing this trend and opening up lucrative career paths for New Mexico students.

According to the Economic Development Department (EDD), the Film Technicians Training Program (FTTP) hosted in four of our state's learning institutions can always use funding for student productions that offer the hands-on experience of working on a film production from start to finish. FTTP programs are offered in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Roswell and Santa Fe and provide an inexpensive, accessible entrée into the world of film. It is through programs such as these that New Mexico has successfully grown our below-the-line film crew to over 800 members. The Higher Education Department will want to work closely with the New Mexico Film Office and their FTTP coordinator to designate these training funds appropriately.

The Higher Education Department (HED) notes that the Film Technicians' Training Program, developed by Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) provides hands-on, academic training to New Mexico residents interested in entering the film industry. The FTTP is a mobile statewide program, currently offered at four state colleges with plans to expand to all of the state's community colleges and technical-vocational institutes. After an introduction to the film industry, students choose a specific craft and work on actual short-form productions (public service announcements, commercials, etc.). The final semester is spent working on larger projects such as short films and independent films under the supervision of experienced crew members. The film program at SFCC is an official component of the New Mexico Film Office Workforce Training and Development.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

HED notes that, although there are currently no specific guidelines to implement such a project, the department is committed to supporting post-secondary student-centered initiatives that are linked to employment opportunities. The task for HED is to formulate a plan and publicize a Request for Proposals (RFP) for student productions to take advantage of funding.

ML/nt