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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Steinborn ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/2007
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 417
SHORT TITLE NMSU Public Broadcasting Radio & TV Stations SB _____
ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$470.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 135, SB 134, and HB 418.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)
New Mexico State University – KRWG

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 417 appropriates \$470,000 from the General Fund to the NMSU Regents for expenditure in FY 2008 to expand local broadcasting radio and television programming.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$470,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

New Mexico State University reports a need to build upon successful programming and enhance the offerings through:

Production Funding: Opportunities and issues affecting the region require the ability to provided local programs that are relevant and timely.

Equipment Funding: In addition to meeting digital requirements, we seek to replace outdated equipment to help students gain valuable experience and meet the information/educational needs of the Southern New Mexico.

In-state Travel Funding: To meet the needs of this huge geographic region requires crews and equipment to be available on location. Travel from Silver City to Ruidoso or Truth or Consequences to Hachita presents a considerable challenge.

Personnel: To help cover the expansion of the stations and programming, our need for additional staff also expands. We are requesting funds for one additional person

The Higher Education Department's funding recommendation for FY08 is a continuance of FY07 recurring funding in the amount of \$1,208,600 with no expansion.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 135 (Expand NMSU Educational TV Services) and HB 418 (NMSU Educational TV Services) appropriate \$80,000 to NMSU to expand NMSU educational television services.

Senate Bill 134 (Expand NMSU Radio & TV Stations) also appropriates \$470,000 from the General Fund to NMSU to expand radio and television local programming. It is not an exact duplicate of HB 417 (NMSU Public Broadcasting Radio & TV Stations), because of the titles.

BM/sb