

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 2-3-2007

SPONSOR Moore LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 460

SHORT TITLE Statewide Humanities Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Dearing

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Cultural Affairs Department (CAD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 460 appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to department of Cultural Affairs for the purpose of contracting a statewide public humanities program. The program shall include a historical speaker program and traveling historical exhibits.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand contained in House Bill 460 is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the General Fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Cultural Affairs department provides humanities programs throughout New Mexico by contracting with the New Mexico Humanities Council, a non-profit formally recognized by the

federal government as the primary provider of humanities programs in the state. Only 25 percent of New Mexico Humanities Council's budget is provided through state funds. New Mexico Humanities Council works in tandem with the Smithsonian Institution to send historians and speakers to schools and community groups statewide. The New Mexico Humanities Council sponsors the state chapter of National History Day. Winners of the National History Day competition are sent to Washington DC to represent New Mexico (approximately about 40 - 50 kid each year). New Mexico Humanities Council provides grants to non-profits across the state for public programs to bring scholars in contact with public audiences for dialogue in current and historic events and public policy. New Mexico Humanities Council programs reach every county in New Mexico.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

House Bill 460 would allow an additional 30 Chautauqua programs to serve New Mexico schools.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Department of Cultural Affairs has been providing humanities programs throughout New Mexico by contracting with the New Mexico Humanities Council for many years. This bill would have no significant administration implications for the department.

### **RELATIONSHIP**

House Bill 460 relates to the general appropriation act. Cultural Affairs department's FY08 budget request allocated approximately \$144 thousand for statewide programming and services. A portion of this appropriation goes to the humanities program.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

This request is to increase funding provided to the NEW MEXICO HUMANITIES COUNCIL by \$100.0 in order to cover increased costs of providing historical programs in every county of New Mexico, as well as to expand services to reach an additional 13,000 New Mexicans. The program expansion will serve an additional 810 students and teachers statewide participating in the historical speakers program (Chautauqua Program), and bring a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition to six underserved rural New Mexico Communities, including Belen, Ruidoso Downs, Hobbs, Columbus, Raton and Las Vegas.

New Mexico Humanities Council's funding has not increased since 1991. This request for \$100.0 includes \$45.0 to cover cost of living adjustments to fund current services provided, and \$55.0 to increase programs and services provided to New Mexicans.