

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 2-14-2007

SPONSOR Lujan, B. LAST UPDATED _____ HB 1177

SHORT TITLE Fray Angélico Chávez History Library SB _____

ANALYST Dearing

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$350.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Senate Bill 1054

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

No agency responses received as of 2-14-2007.

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1177 appropriates \$350 thousand from the general fund to Cultural Affairs department for the acquisition of materials for the Fray Angélico Chávez history library. Materials to will include publishers' archives, historical writings and recorded videotaped interviews of New Mexico senior citizens.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$350 thousand contained in House Bill 1177 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 Fray Angélico Chávez History Library is the institutional successor of New Mexico's oldest library (dated to 1851) and is part of the Palace of the Governors on the Santa Fe plaza. A non-

circulating, closed stack research facility, it preserves historical materials in many formats documenting the history of the state, the Southwest, and meso-America from pre-European contact to the present.¹ The appropriation in House Bill 1177 will provide funding for acquisition of historical and archival materials for the library.

Producing oral history documents is a systematic attempt to enlist people with first-hand knowledge of special historical developments and experiences into video-recording their memoirs while they are still able to do so effectively, with sufficient powers of recall. Oral history is spoken history, subject to all the biases and vagaries inherent in human recall; yet it is not substantially different from other historical sources (diaries, correspondence, official documents, newspapers, photographs, etc.) which are distorted, partial, and viewed through the screen of contemporary experience. Oral history data must be subjected to the same tests of evidence as other sources, examined along with other contemporary sources for corroboration and authentication. The primary value of oral history testimony is its usefulness in social history, for reconstructing the fabric of daily life since the turn-of-the-century, and for documenting the mundane details of family and community life for which written evidence is often scarce.²

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

No performance implications noted. It is unknown whether the department counts researching visitors to the Fray Angélico Chávez History Library at the Palace of the Governors within its “*Number of participants to on-site educational, outreach, and special events related to museum missions*” performance measure.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Cultural Affairs department will be the fiscal agent for the appropriation in House Bill 1177.

RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 1177 nearly duplicates Senate Bill 1054. Very insignificant linguistic differences separate the two bills from being parallel.

PD/nt

¹ Many of the library's materials are available at the *Online Archive of New Mexico*, hosted by UNM; http://elibrary.unm.edu/oanm/index_NmSm.html

² University of California at Santa Cruz Library; *Primer, Overview of Significance of Oral Histories*; <http://library.ucsc.edu/reg-hist/ohprimer.html>