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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/22/08

SPONSOR Garcia, M.P. LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HJM 17

SHORT TITLE Develop Official Acequia Registry SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Escudero

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

This House Joint Memorial 17 requests the Acequia Commission to develop an Official Registry of Acequias in New Mexico.

- Acequias and community ditches are intertwined with the cultural fabric of New Mexico and are the foundation of the land-based culture of both acequia communities and pueblos.
- Those two indigenous ways of life are a vital part of the common heritage of the people of New Mexico.
- Acequias and community ditches are a living repository of the colorful and grand history and culture of this great state.
- There is no complete official registry of acequias and community ditches in New Mexico;
- Therefore, be it resolved by the Legislature of the State Of New Mexico that the acequia commission be requested to develop an official registry of acequias and community ditches in the State of New Mexico to preserve the historical, cultural and legal record of acequias and community ditches.
- Be it further resolved, that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the Acequia Commission.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific appropriations were attached to this legislation However; costs incurred by the

commission to develop the registry are indeterminate and are presumed to be on-going.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

House Joint Memorial 17 intends to continue the preservation of our great state by preserving the historical, cultural and legal record of acequias and community ditches.

Per the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division and the data compiled by the Department of Cultural Affairs, we know cultural activities in New Mexico have a 2.5-billion impact on the states economy, employ more than 32,000 people and provide \$500 million in income each year. Cultural tourism generated more than \$600 million in 2003 and comprised New Mexico’s largest employer. Historic preservation’s contribution to making this possible is immeasurable, beginning from the early days of preserving this fabric of our state’s heritage. Identifying, evaluating and nominating resources is an ongoing partnership among the private sector and local, state and federal governments.

PME/bb