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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/08

SPONSOR Griego LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Northern NM State School Hazmat Training SB 498

ANALYST Haug

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation |         | Recurring<br>or Non-Rec | Fund<br>Affected |
|---------------|---------|-------------------------|------------------|
| FY08          | FY09    |                         |                  |
|               | \$400.0 | Recurring               | General Fund     |

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplication SB 458

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Northern New Mexico College (NNMC)

Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHSEM)

Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 498 appropriates \$400.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of Northern New Mexico State School (now Northern New Mexico College) to provide science-based hazardous materials decontamination evaluation and training services statewide to volunteer and full-time response agencies.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$400.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

This request was not submitted by Northern New Mexico College to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY09.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

NNMC states that this bill would fund State-Wide First Responder Decontamination Training. Initial training would be provided to State and Local Fire Departments and Hazmat Units. Northern New Mexico College (aka, Northern New Mexico State School) would be the fiscal agency for this training, and provide classroom space, scheduling assistance, dormitory access, cafeteria services and certification for successfully completed programs. Northern is working with former Los Alamos National Laboratory experts who are state of the art practitioners in hazmat training for radioactive and other volatile organic compounds.

According to DHSEM:

DHSEM has oversight for all hazardous materials response protocols and training per the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Act. Therefore, the proposed legislation should be amended to appropriate funding to its department.

DHSEM states decontamination training for first responders in the event of hazardous materials, radioactive and/or terrorist event is needed in the state. Fully trained decontamination teams more widely available statewide would enhance capabilities and provide better response for citizens.

The DOH notes that SB498 addresses the need for all types of first responders to be trained on how to practice personal protection and to be capable of decontaminating members of the public exposed to hazardous materials. The Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management receive federal funding from these agencies: Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Department of Homeland Security, and Department of Health and Human Services to provide personal protection and patient decontamination training to hospital personnel, emergency medical technicians, law enforcement, emergency management, and firefighters. Additional availability for training and education for rural, frontier and urban responders may contribute to the state's ability to respond effectively to hazardous material incidents and increases the likelihood that the health and safety of first responders will be protected.

## **DUPLICATION**

Senate Bill 458 is a duplicate.

GH/nt