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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Steinborn **ORIGINAL DATE** 1/27/10
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** 182
SHORT TITLE Small Farm Institute Education & Outreach **SB** _____
ANALYST Hoffmann/Aguilar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 182 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University to provide staffing, education, outreach and research to be conducted by the Small Farm Institute.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2011 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to an NMSU News Center report dated July 17, 2009, funding has already been secured to help the startup process of the institute. The 2007 session of the New Mexico Legislature appropriated \$64,000 for staffing of the program, as well as \$105,000 for capital outlay that will be used for such things as purchasing equipment, and constructing a greenhouse and drip irrigation system.

The report adds that "To get the program started, faculty involved in the institute are focusing on the Alcalde Sustainable Agriculture Center and the Agricultural Science Center at Los Lunas, as well as the Fabian Garcia Science Center and Leyendecker Plant Science Research Center at the Las Cruces campus."

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The LFC recommendation includes appropriation to New Mexico State University for the College of Agriculture. It appears this expenditure may be appropriate for funding from this source.

The appropriation sets up a new research project at a time when the LFC is recommending universities reduce program that duplicate other efforts statewide.

CH/PA:mt