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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/01/10
 LAST UPDATED 02/12/10 **HB**

SPONSOR Feldman

SHORT TITLE Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Elections **SM** 21/aSRC

ANALYST Pava

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Responses Not Received From

Secretary of State (SOS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

The Senate Rules Committee amendment of Senate Memorial 21 adds three phases underlined here including: those that have a right to vote must own property within the benefited area of the district; the task force reports its findings to the Board of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District for its consideration and comment; and also to the board of directors for its consideration and comment, thence to the governor.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Memorial 21 requests the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (“District”) Board of Directors to convene a task force to study different components of the district’s electoral process. This task force would be composed of 19 members representing different interests in the Conservancy. The task force would report its preliminary findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors no later than April 15, 2010 and its final findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors, the Governor, and the appropriate legislative interim committee by December 15, 2010.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Indian Affairs Department indicated as follows:

SM 21 requests the District Board of Directors establish a task force to study their electoral process in effort to improve voter involvement, voter education, transparency and credibility in District elections. The task force would look at a number of factors including constitutional issues concerning the limitation of the right to vote to property owners, procedures for reporting campaign contributions and expenditures, and ways to improve voter turnout and voter participation.

The memorial outlines the composition of the task force to represent different interests in the District; notably, the task force includes one representative from each of the six Indian Pueblos containing land within the district and one representative from the Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblos Water Coalition. The Pueblos of Cochiti, Santo Domingo, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Sandia, and Isleta all have land within the boundaries of the District.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

No performance implications

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

As stated by Indian Affairs Department, SM 21 indicated for the task force to be staffed by District employees. This may present an administration burden for the District.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

As stated by Indian Affairs Department, no known conflicts, duplications, companionships, or relationships to other bills.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

As stated by Indian Affairs Department, the District would not be directed to conduct a study on their electoral process in effort to improve voter involvement, voter education, transparency and credibility in District elections.

CP/mew