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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/26/10

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Minority Math, Engineering & Science Program SB 82

ANALYST Haug

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 82 appropriates \$160.0 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Department for the minority mathematics, engineering and science achievement program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150.0 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.

The HED notes MESA currently receives \$1,100,900 in recurring funds from the general fund through NMHED and \$150,000 as a recurring line item appropriation through NMIMT. The appropriation through NMHED was not affected by the special legislative session reductions in FY10, whereas the appropriation through NMIMT was reduced to \$140,200.

The DFA states that the HED FY11 budget request includes \$1.1 million for NM MESA. The LFC recommendation would reduce NM MESA funding by \$71,600 from that level. This bill may be an attempt to restore 100% of this cut and to build in funds for additional program activities above the amount in the regular appropriation.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The HED states:

This appropriation is to enhance funding for the New Mexico MESA program. New Mexico MESA, a nonprofit organization, is part of a national initiative promoting educational enrichment for pre-college students from historically underrepresented ethnic groups. This pre-college program prepares students for college majors and careers in mathematics, engineering, science or technically related fields. New Mexico MESA is coordinated through seven regional offices, each staffed by a Regional Coordinator. These regional offices are located in Albuquerque (2), Espanola, Las Vegas, Gallup, Las Cruces and Roswell.

New Mexico MESA supports student programs in mid-high and high schools throughout the state. Each school program is administered by a teacher (typically a math or science teacher) from the school who receives a stipend for this work from their school district. Through these programs, students participate in a variety of enriched math, science and engineering activities including field trips, speakers, workshops, regional and statewide academic competitions, community service and leadership development projects. New Mexico MESA provides funding and logistical support for these and other activities.

Following is data regarding New Mexico MESA:

- More than 5,500 students participating in grades 6-12
- 132 Middle and high schools including Navajo Nation and Laguna Pueblo
- 36 School districts
- 175 MESA Advisors (teachers at each MESA site)
- 53% Female; 47% Male students
- 75% Minority students
- 59% Receive free or reduced school meals
- 22% Families at or below federal poverty level

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The HED comments that the New Mexico Higher Education Department would retain fiscal oversight of the program. This would include forwarding the appropriation to the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology who would then act as the fiscal agent for New Mexico MESA.

GH/svb