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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Nava **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/05/10
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE NM Tech Summer Science Program **SB** 141

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 141 appropriates \$50 thousand from the General fund to the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology for the summer science program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 thousand 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

The Summer Science Program is a residential enrichment program in which gifted high school students complete a challenging, hands-on research project in celestial mechanics.

The Summer Science Program started in California in 1959 as part of the response to Sputnik and expanded to New Mexico Tech in 2003. From 1959-2002, less than one New Mexico student applied to the program each year and over that period only four New Mexico students actually participated. In 2003 and 2004, one New Mexico student was accepted. In 2005, free

tuition was offered, the number of completed applications increased and five students were admitted. In 2006, eight New Mexico students participated, five participated in 2007 and eight students participated in 2008.

The Summer Science Program fee of \$3,850 includes tuition, room and board, local transportation, and supplies. New Mexico students can apply for a waiver of the fee. This appropriation covers approximately eight New Mexico students ages 15-18 to attend the program. Thirty-six students from around the world attend overall.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This program would be administered within existing appropriations.

PA/mew