

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/14/11

SPONSOR Chavez, D. LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HJM 30

SHORT TITLE Higher Education Redesign Governor Task Force SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Haug

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Independent Community Colleges (ICC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 30 requests the Governor to establish a working group to study restructuring of higher education in New Mexico and make recommendations to the governor and legislature prior to the 50<sup>th</sup> legislative session in 2012. The work group would include all six university presidents; one former regent from each constitutional university; a representative of a branch college and an independent college; the secretaries of higher education, finance and administration and information technology.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Joint Memorial 30 has no fiscal implications.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED reports that the HED, Council of University Presidents (CUP), Funding Formula Task Force, Higher Education Advisory Council (HEAC) and others have contended with the structures promoting the current organization of higher education in New Mexico for over a year. The recent HED Master Plan for Higher Education made a number of recommendations for improvement of the system after a thorough hearing from constituents throughout the state. HJM30 uses these recommendations in formulating the new work group, mandating that it make

## **House Joint Memorial 30 – Page 2**

recommendations for changes concerning future projections for enrollment and workforce needs, consolidation and closure of some institutions, changes to the funding formula, ways to consolidate disciplines and degrees, distance learning, graduation rates, administrative and financial structures and other factors to foster excellence and academic rigor.

The ICC notes that while the joint memorial identifies several important policy issues which merit review and discussion, it is a matter of concern to community colleges, which enroll nearly 60 percent of the state's postsecondary students and provide approximately 50 percent of total credit hour instruction, that the interests of these students would only be directly represented by two members of a 17 member work group. Additionally, the proposed membership does not appear to include participation from other constitutionally-established institutions such as Northern New Mexico College and New Mexico Military Institute.

GH/bym