2018 Legislative Session – Briefing: January 22, 2018

The 2018 legislative session started on a positive note compared to the previous two sessions. In December, the Consensus Revenue Estimate predicted $199 million in new money for FY19. The Consensus Revenue group is expected to release new revenue estimates soon. The Severance Tax Bonds are estimated at $142 million, $80 million more than the previous year, and the General Obligation Bonds are estimated at $165 million for FY19. The following summarizes how UNM fared in the DFA and LFC budget recommendations.

DFA – Department of Finance and Administration – Executive

- I&G budget recommendation starts from the FY18 operating base:
  - Main Campus: $176,365,576, a $542,376 increase or 0.31%
  - Medical School: $57,201,100, flat funding recommendation
  - Branch Campuses:
    - Gallup: $8,172,459, a $234,641 decrease or -2.79%
    - Los Alamos: $1,693,414 a $16,986 decrease or -0.99%
    - Taos: $3,302,184, a $28,084 increase or 0.86%
    - Valencia: $5,130,499, a $4,701 decrease or -0.09%

- Research and Public Service Projects
  - Main Campus: $8,730,100, flat funding
  - Health Science Center: $31,980,900, a $1 million increase for OMI
  - Branch Campuses: $571,500, flat funding

LFC – Legislative Finance Committee

- I&G budget recommendation starts from the FY18 operating base:
  - Main Campus: $176,156,970, a $333,770 increase or 0.19%
  - Medical School: $57,201,100, flat funding recommendation
  - Branch Campuses:
    - Gallup: $8,262,706, a $144,394 decrease or -1.72%
    - Los Alamos: $1,699,947, a $10,453 decrease or -0.61%
    - Taos: $3,291,382, a $17,282 increase or 0.53%
    - Valencia: $5,132,307, a $2,893 decrease or -0.06%

- Research and Public Service Projects
  - Main Campus: $8,730,100, flat funding
  - Health Science Center: $30,980,900, flat funding
  - Branch Campuses: $571,500, flat funding

Lottery Scholarship:

- Even though there has been much discussion during the interim about possible changes to the Lottery Scholarship, as of now, no legislation has been introduced. However, the LFC recommended a one-time funding increase of $4 million from the General Fund to keep the Lottery Scholarship distribution at the FY18 level of approximately 60%.

Compensation:

- The LFC and DFA both recommended a pay increase for state employees this session. The LFC recommended a 1.5% pay increase and DFA recommended a 1.0% pay increase. However, the actual dollar amount recommended by the LFC for UNM is below 1.5% due to the way they calculate who is actually a state employee.
General Obligation, LFC Recommendation:

- UNM – Clark Hall Renovation Phase 2: $16,000,000
- UNM GALLUP – Construction Technologies Career Center Phase 1: $2,500,000
- UNM LOS ALAMOS – Infrastructure and Classroom Updates: $300,000
- UNM TAOS – College Pathways to Careers Center: $4,200,000
- UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO TOTAL: $23,000,000

Proposed Legislation of Interest.

- Please visit the Office of Government Relations website at http://govrel.unm.edu/, and click on 2018 Legislative Session for a list of all bills that impact UNM. For daily legislative updates, please sign up to join our listserv for updates.