

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: HB 278

51st Legislature, 1st Session, 2013

Tracking Number: .191988.1

Short Title: After-School Enrichment Programs

Sponsor(s): Representatives Christine H. Trujillo and Patricia A. Roybal Caballero and Others

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 12, 2013

Bill Summary:

HB 278 makes an appropriation for after-school enrichment programs that provide expanded learning opportunities for students. The Public Education Department (PED) shall establish criteria to prioritize awards to programs that:

- are aligned to the educational plan for student success and common core standards;
- provide academic enrichment opportunities for students;
- help students meet state standards in core academic subjects;
- increase opportunities for physical activity and good nutrition; and
- collaborate with and leverage existing community partnerships and resources that have a proven record of effectiveness.

A portion of each award, as determined by PED, may be used to support professional development for after-school program staff.

Fiscal Impact:

\$2.0 million is appropriated from the General Fund to PED for expenditure in FY 14. Unexpended or unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

Substantive Issues:

According to PED, funds for after-school programs currently are provided by a federal 21st Century Community Learning Center grant from the US Department of Education. In school year 2012-2013 this funding made possible awards at 17 sites serving 70 centers. Funding, however, is not adequate to meet the needs of all the applications for after-school programs that PED has received.

PED also notes that the Legislature previously provided funds for after-school enrichment programs in FY 08 through FY 11 with \$2.0 million provided in FY 08. Funding decreased in each of the subsequent years until funding was eliminated altogether in FY 12.

PED states that approximately \$50,000 per program is required in order to develop and maintain a quality after-school enrichment program. HB 278 would make possible approximately 40 additional after-school enrichment program sites.

Background:

According to the analysis of HB 278 by PED, high quality after-school programs:

- produce connections with individuals or activities that are healthy and supportive of positive growth and development of life skills;
- promote relationships with supportive adults as well as positive peer-bonding opportunities within the school;
- provide extracurricular activities that appeal to different interests;
- serve as an important resource for families, especially working parents, by assuring them that their children are being supervised and are in an educational environment;
- provide a supportive and safe environment where children and youth receive physical activity, good nutrition, and tutoring in reading and math; and
- reduce juvenile crime by keeping kids safe and occupied in the late afternoon after school hours.

Committee Referrals:

HEC/HAFC

Related Bills:

SB 179 *Community Schools Act*