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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Stapleton ORIGINAL DATE 2/5/16
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 288

SHORT TITLE College & Career Readiness Software SB _____

ANALYST Fernandez

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$330.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 288 appropriates \$330 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department to purchase software that addresses the requirements of next-step plans pursuant to Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978 and that provides web-based solutions for students, counselors, teachers and parents to become engaged in the planning and preparation for college and careers. The software shall also provide web-based solutions for professional development options for school staff that work well with typical New Mexico demographics.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$330 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2017 shall revert to the general fund.

PED indicates that a request for proposal will be issued for this project and the bill requires school districts to apply to PED for funding. The annual cost for software licensing will be a recurring expense.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Pursuant to Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978, a "next-step plan" means an annual personal written plan of studies developed by a student in a public school or other state-supported school or institution in consultation with the student's parent and school counselor or other school official charged with coursework planning for the student that includes one or more of the following:

- (a) advanced placement or honors courses;
- (b) dual-credit courses offered in cooperation with an institution of higher education;
- (c) distance learning courses;
- (d) career-technical courses; and
- (e) pre-apprenticeship programs

PED indicates that Next Step Plans are developed by students in grades 8-11 and during the senior year. In grades 8-11, the plan is referred to as an interim NSP and in 12th grade, it is called a final NSP. The plan targets the student's postsecondary interests and related requirements necessary for graduation. The NSP is reviewed and updated annually. The plan is signed by the student, parents and guidance counselor and must be filed with the principal of the student's high school.

According to PED, the department currently uses a template for NSP that aligns to statutory requirements and is a static system not interactive with electronic tools. Students, parents, and counselors do not have easy access to a career interest inventory that includes job information and labor market data about current and emerging employment trends.

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