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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/29/16
SPONSOR Lopez **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Special Needs Educator Development **SB** 87

ANALYST Fernandez

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB62

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 87 appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department to provide all teachers and school staff, including administrators, school resource officers, education assistants and substitute teachers, with professional development to effectively work with students with special needs in the classroom.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of FY17 shall revert to the general fund.

According to PED, New Mexico receives approximately \$92 million in federal funds under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B for special education and related services for students with disabilities ages 3-21 years. Most of the funds flow to PED then to 152 local education agencies (LEAs) to be used for direct services for students with disabilities to ensure students with disabilities receive a free public education. Remaining funds can be used for indirect costs and services such as professional development and training.

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PED also provides approximately \$2.5 million IDEA discretionary funding (state directed activities) to New Mexico Regional Education Cooperatives annually for professional development and training.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED indicates that in order to receive IDEA Part B funding, it must ensure that all personnel are appropriately and adequately prepared.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to PED, the department would need to develop a system to distribute funding to all LEA's to train teachers and school staff.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 87 relates to SB 62, which appropriates \$2 million to PED to contract with autism programs at New Mexico post-secondary educational institutions to assist school districts in the development and implementation of evidence-based practices in classrooms for students with autism spectrum disorder and to build in-state autism spectrum disorder expertise and capacity.

CTF/al/jle