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LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS
54th Legislature, 1st Session, 2019

Bill Number	<u>HB447</u>	Sponsor	<u>Trujillo, L./Romero, Andrea</u>
Tracking Number	<u>.213155.1</u>	Committee Referrals	<u>HEC; SEC/ SPAC</u>
Short Title	<u>Track Children Between School & CYFD</u>		
Analyst	<u>Stiles</u>	Original Date	<u>2/14/19</u>
		Last Updated	<u>3/4/19</u>

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 447 (HB447) would enact a new section of the Public School Code requiring a student to receive a unique identification number to be used for any records or databases in which a student is identified by name. The bill specifies it will be the responsibility of every school district or charter school in the state to determine if the student has ever enrolled in a public school in New Mexico, and to use the student's original identification number. HB447 further requires the Public Education Department (PED) and the Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD), with assistance of the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to convene a task force of stakeholders to develop a tracking system that provides for real-time reporting and allows for cross-checking of the student identification number for a student under the age of 18. The task force would be required to report to the LESC by December 1, 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT

HB447 does not contain an appropriation.

CYFD anticipates a fiscal impact of \$250 thousand to the department for initial implementation, presuming use of an existing software package. CYFD further anticipates a \$50 thousand annual fiscal impact on the department for licensing and maintenance.

PED anticipates the expansion of the current identification system would cost a one-time fee of \$60 thousand for user licenses and training. PED estimates an additional \$32.5 thousand would be necessary for a homeschool data system, work development of standard operating procedures, and workflows. PED analysis indicates because CYFD and PED both have current identification systems and data sharing agreements, DoIT may not need to be included in the implementation of a student identification tracking system.

DoIT anticipates a fiscal impact of \$120 thousand in FY19 to hire or delegate one FTE to developing a tracking system. In FY20, DoIT further anticipates an additional cost of \$80 thousand for professional services and system development, resulting in a total cost of \$200 thousand. DoIT

anticipates a fiscal impact of \$30 thousand in FY21 and thereafter for ongoing database support and licensing.

SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

HB447 would enact a new section of the Public School Code requiring a student to receive a unique identification number, pursuant to Section 22-2C-11 NMSA 1978, which will be used on all forms, student records, transcripts, and databases in which a student is identified by name. The bill would require every school district or charter school enrolling a student to determine if the student has ever attended a public school in New Mexico, and to use the original student identification number the student had been assigned.

HB447 would enact a temporary provision requiring PED and CYFD to develop a compatible student-child tracking system that is useable among public schools, PED, CYFD, and other local offices PED determines should be included. PED analysis indicates CYFD and PED currently have identification systems and data-sharing agreements in place, both departments use the same identification systems for early childhood education programs. PED notes it currently manages a homeschool database but it is limited and students would need to be assigned an identification number if a statewide tracking system is put in place.

Several states have instituted Early Childhood Integrated Data Systems (ECIDS), a data management system meant to integrate data from different departments of the state including departments of education, child well-being departments, departments of health, and others depending on the state. Some states have implemented ECIDS that track children over time by assigning a unique identifier to each child and allowing shared data between early learning programs and relevant state agencies, although states handle the way information is shared between agencies differently.

PED, CYFD, and the Department of Health are currently working on developing ECIDS, funded through a federal Race to the Top grant that ended December 2017. Work on the integrated data system has been able to continue with a \$5.4 million award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five, a grant program that helps states design and implement an early care and education system. While such data systems are more comprehensive than the tracking system that would be required by HB447, it may be possible for PED and CYFD to expand on this developing system so students can continue to be tracked over time until they are 18, as HB447 would require.

HB447 would require PED and CYFD to convene a task force of public school personnel; CYFD social workers; juvenile probation and parole personnel; children's court judges or their designees; and child advocates. PED notes the taskforce should include a representative from the Bureau of Indian Education and from private schools. CYFD notes the five other state-supported schools may need to be involved in the tracking system task force if the intention of the bill is for students to track student enrollment between agencies.

The task force, with assistance from system analysts from PED, CYFD, and the DoIT, will be required to develop the tracking system. The bill would require the tracking system to provide real-time reporting and allow for cross-checking of the student identification number against identification numbers other agencies might assign a child. HB447 would require the task force to report to LESC with its design and recommendations for implementation of the tracking system by December 1, 2019.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

PED and CYFD would need to select delegates to convene and lead the task force to develop the tracking system. DoIT would also need to assign delegates to assist the task force. PED notes the department would need to work with CYFD to expand the current identification tracking systems and PED would need to rewrite the homeschool system and change the process for homeschool reporting. PED would also be required to change data reporting requirements for schools and school districts.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Should the requirements of HB447 span to after a student is 18 for data tracking purposes?

RELATED BILLS

HB168 would require PED to track students by identification numbers and report students who are not continuously enrolled to CYFD.

SB202 and HB173 would enact the Child and Family Databank Act which would coordinate the data collection, storage, and sharing efforts among several state agencies including PED and CYFD.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- LESC Files
- Children, Youth, Family Department (CYFD)
- Department of Information Technology (DoIT)
- Public Education Department (PED)

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