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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Trujillo, J/Romero, A **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/12/2020
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** 314
SHORT TITLE Rio Arriba & Santa Fe School Districts **SB** _____
ANALYST Gaussoin

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|---------------|---------|------------------------------|------------------|
| FY20 | FY21 | | |
| | \$400.0 | Recurring | General Fund |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB177

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Northern New Mexico College (NNMC)
Higher Education Department (HED)

No Response Received

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 314 appropriates \$400 thousand from the general fund to Northern New Mexico College for community initiatives with the Pojoaque Valley and Española school districts and tribes and pueblos in Santa Fe and Rio Arriba counties.

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed that the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$400 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY21 shall revert to the general fund.

HED reports NNMC did not submit this proposal to be considered as part of HED's comprehensive funding recommendation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

A focus of the court ruling in the *Martinez* and *Yazzie* education sufficiency lawsuit was the needs of students at risk of failure, defined in the decision as indigenous students, English learners, low-income students, and students with disabilities. Further, the court found the state was violating state and federal laws on bilingual and multicultural education and indigenous students. In addition to targeting projects specifically with the pueblos and tribes in the area, the bill focuses on two school districts that have high percentages of low-income and minority students.

Pojoaque Valley School District, as reported in the *Pojoaque Valley School District Portfolio, 2017-2018* (<https://bit.ly/2GxDkTB>), has just under 2,000 students, about 75 percent Hispanic and another 20 percent Native American. Almost 60 percent are economically disadvantaged. PEDs school grading system was removed from law in 2019, but nmschoolgrades.com, a PED-linked website, lists Ds and Fs for the Pojoaque intermediate, middle, and high schools and a B for Pablo Roybal Elementary.

According to National Center for Education Statistics, 78 percent of the more than 3,500 students in Española Public Schools are Hispanic and 8 percent are indigenous. Twenty-nine percent are from families with incomes below the poverty level. [Nmschoolgrades.com](http://nmschoolgrades.com) lists an F, six Ds, three Bs and an A for the district's 11 elementary schools, a C for Espanola Valley High School, and an F for Carlos F. Vigil Middle School.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

From HED: “HB314 does not outline specific performance measures; however, if funded, NNMC should develop performance measures in coordination with NMHED.”

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

NNMC states it intends to contract with the two school districts and affected tribes to identify potential projects.

RELATIONSHIP

HB177 appropriates \$3.335 million from the general fund to a newly created regional partnership school demonstration project fund to support a five-year partnership project involving the Pojoaque Valley public school district, New Mexico Highlands University School of Education, and Los Alamos National Laboratory.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

HB314 refers to Northern New Mexico College as Northern New Mexico State School. Section 21-4-2 NMSA 1978 states, “Except for financial transactions, the use of the name northern New Mexico college is hereby permitted in lieu of northern New Mexico state school, for common convenience.”

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

NNMC says it has existing, well-established relationships with the school districts and tribes in its area and is “uniquely positioned to partner with these entities.

HFG/sb