

LFC Requester:	LFC
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Click all that apply:

Original Amendment
Correction Substitute

Date 2025-02-21

Bill No: SB495

Sponsor: <u>Campos, Pete</u>	Agency Name and Code <u>NMHED</u>
Short <u>HIGHER EDUCATION</u>	Number: _____
Title: <u>RADIO</u>	Person Writing <u>Brown, Joe</u>
	Phone: <u>5056293051</u> Email <u>Joe.Brown@hed.nm.gov</u>

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act:

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 495 (SB495) updates the Educational Television Equipment Replacement Fund, a 1977 statute, by designating it as a non-reverting fund within the state treasury. The original law required the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) to establish criteria and promulgate rules for distributing funds to replace equipment at educational television stations operated by higher education institutions. SB495 modifies this framework in three key ways: expanding eligibility to include radio stations in addition to television stations, specifying that funding applies to state institutions rather than institutions broadly, and granting access to public schools as qualifying entities.

The original law includes a provision stating, "It is the intent of the legislature that in subsequent years a specific line item for educational television replacement shall be included in the appropriations recommended for educational television by the department." SB495 modifies this language by removing the temporal qualifier "in subsequent years," ensuring the funding mandate applies immediately rather than prospectively. Additionally, the bill systematically replaces every instance of the term "television" with "television and radio" throughout the text, expanding the scope to encompass both media formats. Finally, SB495 eliminates the original non-reversion clause, which stipulated that the 1982 General Appropriation Act allocation would remain nonreverting indefinitely unless explicitly overridden. By striking this sentence entirely, the amendment transfers authority over fund reversion policies to the updated statutory framework established by SB495 itself.

NMHED's analysis of this bill focuses on the higher education implications of the proposed legislation. Additional insight may be obtained from other agencies' analyses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

As stated in the bill summary, the term "in subsequent years" was struck from original language in SB495. It is still intended that a line item be included, but instead of only television it is now television and radio. There is not a specific appropriation included in this amendment.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

N/A

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

As the current law has been in effect since 1977, the NMHED has already developed the criteria and rules for disbursement of money in the fund. This amendment adds radio stations to the language and NMHED would then add radio stations to any future disbursements as required.

NMHED's analysis of this bill focuses on the higher education implications of the proposed legislation. Additional insight may be obtained from other agencies' analyses.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB 493 calls for making an appropriation of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) for expenditure in FY26 for the KANW educational radio station to purchase equipment and add resources for reporters to cover rural New Mexico news.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If this bill is not enacted, then radio stations would not be included in the funding eligibility and future distributions would fund only television stations.

AMENDMENTS

N/A