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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Carraro DATE TYPED: 2/21/01 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE: Merit Awards for Student Achievement SB 27
 ANALYST: Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	\$ 850.0			Rec	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB23 _____

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education SDE

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 27 appropriates \$850.0 to design and fund a merit award program for schools and teachers of elementary, middle, and junior high schools.

Significant Issues

Senate Bill 27 would create a new section in the Public School Code regarding Merit Awards. The legislation proposes the following:

Each year one elementary, middle and junior high school would be awarded \$10,000.

An award of \$2,000 would go to the top two percent of elementary, middle and junior high school teachers.

The \$10,000 merit award would be based on the school that achieved the greatest improvement in student achievement.

A \$2,000 merit award would be based on the teachers whose classes achieved the greatest improvement in student achievement.

Senate Bill 27 -- Page 2

Student achievement would be measured by using nationally standardized test scores.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 27 appropriates \$850.0 from the general fund and is recurring.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to SDE, the department will be required to develop a mechanism for identifying schools and teachers for these awards and their distribution.

CONFLICT/DUPLICATION/COMPANIONSHIP/RELATIONSHIP

Relates to SB 23

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

According to SDE, the Incentives for School Improvement Act (Section 22-13A) provides for incentives awards to those schools making the most improvement from one year to the next that account for 10% of the student population. For the past two years, \$1.9 million has been appropriated to the Incentives for School Improvement fund for these awards. During the fall of 2000, an average award of \$18,248 was distributed to 94 schools throughout New Mexico.

RS/njw