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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Romero DATE TYPED: 03/02/01 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE: Dolores Gonzales Elementary Literacy Program SB 573
 ANALYST: Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY99	FY2000	FY99	FY2000		
	\$ 121.8			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 573 appropriates \$121.8 to SDE to staff the Dolores Gonzales Elementary School balanced literacy program pilot targeting at-risk kindergarten students.

Significant Issues

The pilot project could serve as a model for other at-risk Kindergarten programs in the state and since Dolores Gonzales is a full-day Kindergarten site this will enhance our understanding of how to better work with identified at-risk students.

According to SDE, the bill addresses the State Board of Education’s Strategic Issue to: establish clear and high standards in all academic and vocational subjects, and ensure that assessments are aligned with content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.

Research further supports the fact that early intervention and parent involvement in education can reduce these risk factors. Toddlers and young children at risk in one or more of the elements of growth (cognitive, social, intellectual or affective) need intervention. Early intervention programs employ many methods and strategies. Through quality pre-K and Kindergarten programs children can be encouraged to be enterprising and self-confident.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 573 -- Page 2

Senate Bill 573 appropriates \$121.8 from the general fund and is recurring.

RS/ar