

**NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used in any other situation.**

**Only the most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC's office in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.**

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Lujan DATE TYPED: 02/06/02 HB 301

SHORT TITLE: Professional Development Network for Teachers SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: Segura

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
	\$213.5			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education(SDE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 301 appropriates \$213.5 to the SDE to extend a professional development network of New Mexico English and secondary teachers to improve their students' reading, literacy and technology skills.

#### Significant Issues

House Bill 301 specifies that the network shall:

- Build on the infrastructure of the New Mexico Virtual School to allow electronic contact between classrooms;
- Emphasize the use of technology to assist students in reaching their academic potential;
- Provide courses in literature and the teaching of writing, creative writing and theatre arts directly applicable to daily instruction.

According to SDE, the professional development of teachers is critical to the future success of students being prepared for a rapidly expanding information society. This bill not only addresses the need for teachers to continually update their skills in the language arts area, but also addresses teachers' need to use digital tools effectively.

## **House Bill 301 -- Page 2**

The SDE coordinates the Statewide Professional Development Initiative to improve the abilities of teachers and administrators to teach reading and literacy more effectively, principally in elementary schools. This legislation would enhance the Initiative by extending literacy opportunities to high school students and teachers.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The bill appropriates \$213.5 in general fund and is recurring.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

According to SDE, current staff are in place to coordinate the implementation of this initiative. The department staff in the Learning Services and Indian Education Division, Curriculum, Instruction and Learning Technologies Unit are currently charged with overseeing public school district professional development plans, funding and implementation.

RS/ar