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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Stapleton DATE TYPED 02/14/05 HB 615

SHORT TITLE Relearning Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Chabot

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$1,300.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB 316  
Relates to HB 429

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)  
Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 615 appropriates \$1.3 million from the general fund to the board of regents of Eastern New Mexico University for the purpose of continuing the Re:Learning program to support school improvement in all grades of public schools statewide.

#### Significant Issues

PED assesses “Re:Learning has been funded as a non-recurring expenditure since 1989. Re:Learning currently provides services in over 180 schools in 40 school districts throughout the state. These services include support for change, professional development to support implementation of New Mexico content standards and three-tiered teacher licensure.”

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The Re:Learning may lead to improved student outcomes and relates to proficiency scores in math, reading and language arts which are performance measures for public school support.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$1.3 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2006 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC FY06 appropriation recommendation is balanced between revenues and expenditures and any increase in recurring funding must be offset by reductions in other areas of the recommendation. The Legislature must consider all priorities and funding requirements to find revenue to support this legislation.

While PED states the appropriation has always been non-recurring, the LFC considers this a recurring appropriation because once the program was started in 1989, the expectation was it would be continued in future years. The LFC strongly recommends not funding initiatives with non-recurring revenues as it will reduce revenues available in future legislative sessions.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

CHE recommends the bill be amended to include the requirement for program evaluation plan on program effectiveness with reporting to LFC and CHE by October 1, 2005. The LFC would recommend including LESC in any reporting.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

Neither analysis from PED nor CHE provided justification for this program or provided a summary of accomplishments.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. What has this program accomplished?
2. How can a program funded continuously since 1989 be considered non-recurring?
- 3.

**GAC/lg**