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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/27/2007

SPONSOR Begaye LAST UPDATED _____ HM 51

SHORT TITLE Study Local School Board Hiring Policies SB _____

ANALYST Aguilar

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		** Indeterminate				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**** See Fiscal Implications**

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 51 notes a number of legislative findings regarding recent issues statewide where superintendents have been released by school boards prior to the end of their contracts as well as concerns with regard to school board ethics and fiscal responsibility. The memorial requests the Public Education Department study the hiring policies and practices of local school boards in the state to determine what works and does not.

The memorial further requests the department determine and report the cost of contract buyouts during the 2006-2007 school year, examine contract duration options under current law, identify ethical; constitutional or legal issues when local school boards, before they leave office, offer multi-year contracts to superintendents in a school election year.

The memorial requests the department study and recommend options for changing the law regarding the hiring, firing and disciplining of superintendents and local school board members.

The memorial directs a report be provided to LESC no later than November 1, 2007.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

PED notes funding for this study is generally not included in the agency budget. It is unclear as to the total amount needed to complete the study and prepare interim and final reports.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

In recent school years a number of superintendents statewide have been relieved of duties prior to the end of their contracts causing a significant fiscal impact on school districts. In particular, the Las Cruces school district has relieved a number of superintendent causing significant monetary payments as well considerable disruptions in school district operations.

PA/mt