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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/26/2007

SPONSOR SPAC LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Require Use of Standardized Grading System SB 160/SPACS

ANALYST Aguilar

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**\*\* See Fiscal Implications**

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

The Senate Public Affairs Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 160 provides for Public Education Department to adopt and promulgate rules for a standardized grading system to be used by all public schools for grades five through twelve that is aligned with the New Mexico academic content and performance standards.

Public schools shall include results of the standards-based assessments in the standardized grading system.

Public schools would be allowed to augment the grading system with additional narrative or other means to convey student success in developing academic, social, behavioral or other skills.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The committee substitute provides for PED to promulgate rules to establish a standardized grading system. The rule making process is time consuming, requires considerable staff time in preparing the rule as well as gathering public comment statewide. The cost of this could be considerable to PED and is not included in the department budget.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED notes that as New Mexico continues to move to a standards-based system, the primary measure of student success should be New Mexico Content Standard proficiency. A meaningful

uniform statewide grading system would accurately report student attainment of the New Mexico Content Standards. Under this scenario, a uniform system would require developing comparable measures at each grade level, for each subject, if grades are to represent the same level of student attainment across the state. It is anticipated to develop and implement such a system might be costly; however no estimates are developed at this time as the assumptions needed are unclear.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The Legislature may wish to consider the following:

On page 1, Line 23 after “performance” add “standards”

PA/nt