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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/2007

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED 2/17/2007 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Mathematics & Science Education Act SB 552/aSEC/aSFC

ANALYST Aguilar

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 220, HB 2, HB 3

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of SFC Amendment

The Senate Finance Committee amendment to Senate Bill 552 as amended removes the appropriations.

#### Synopsis of SEC Amendment

The Senate Education Committee Amendment to Senate Bill 552 makes technical corrections to punctuation, and removes the term “for public school students” from a description for professional development included as an authorized use of the Mathematics and Science Proficiency Fund.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 552 creates the Math and Science Bureau in the Public Education Department, establishes the math and science advisory council and details its duties, provides funding for mathematics and science programs and projects, creates the Math and Science Proficiency fund and makes appropriations.

Senate Bill 552 appropriates \$3 million from the general fund to the mathematics and science proficiency fund for the purpose of funding summer mathematics, science and reading institutes.

SB 552 appropriates \$620 thousand from the general fund to the public education department to work with national laboratories, other federal science-related facilities, and science and technology businesses to create internships; and to work with the institutions of higher education and the mathematics and science advisory council to increase the rigor of mathematic and science teacher preparation courses.

SB 552 appropriates \$500 thousand to the state parks division of EMNRD to support a statewide outdoor classroom program.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$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 2008 shall not revert to the general fund but shall revert to the mathematic and science proficiency fund.

The appropriation of \$1.12 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 2008 shall revert to the general fund.

This bill creates a new fund and provides for continuing appropriations. The LFC has concerns with including continuing appropriation language in the statutory provisions for newly created funds, as earmarking reduces the ability of the legislature to establish spending priorities.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

SB 552 creates the Math and Science Bureau. Funding for the bureau was included in Laws 2006, Chapter 110; however legislation establishing the bureau was not enacted. Funding for the bureau is included in the department's operating base. This bill formalizes the duties and responsibilities of the bureau which include among others the requirement to develop a statewide strategic plan for math and science education, recommend funding mechanisms, promote partnership and to develop and evaluate curriculum, instructional programs and professional development programs in math and science aligned with the state academic content and performance standards.

The bill creates the Mathematics and Science Advisory Council to advise the Bureau on implementation of its duties; to make recommendations to the Bureau and PED regarding the statewide strategic plan for improving mathematics and science education; advise PED and the Legislature regarding appropriations for math and science education, administration, resources and services; and work with the PED to determine the needs of New Mexico public school

students for math and science achievement.

A temporary Math and Science Advisory Council has been appointed; its composition aligns with the provisions of this bill. They have begun work with the Math and Science Bureau to create a statewide strategic plan for math and science education that incorporates the perspectives of the many stakeholders in this issue.

It is important to note that the appropriation to the math and science proficiency fund is for mathematics, science and **READING** summer institutes. A similar appropriation with identical language was contained in the General Appropriations Act of 2006, yet little or no emphasis was placed on the reading component. It is important not to lose sight of the importance of improving reading while at the same taking steps to improve math and science.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

PED reports that the \$1.7 million appropriated by the 2006 Legislature for math, science and reading institutes has already served almost 1,000 math and science teachers in grades K-12 in nine projects, and more institutes are planned in the Spring and into the Summer up to June 30.

The names of teachers and their schools are being added to a database so that the future achievement of their students can be compared to their past achievement.

### **CONFLICTS**

SB 552 is similar to HB 220 with two significant differences, SB-552 provides additional duties for the bureau to develop and evaluate curriculum, instructional programs and professional development programs in math and science aligned with the state academic content and performance standards. SB-552 also adds provisions for funding for persons that implement innovative, research-based mathematics and science curricula and professional development programs for public school students. It is not clear if this funding will be distributed via an application process or through an RFP.

PA/mt