

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: HB 230

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: Albuquerque Children's Museum Programs

Sponsor(s): Representative Brian K. Moore

Analyst: James Ball

Date: January 24, 2008

Bill Summary:

HB 230 makes an appropriation to contract for statewide education programs by a science center and children's museum in Albuquerque.

Fiscal Impact:

\$100,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

According to LFC Fiscal Impact Report on HB 230, regular contract funding of \$100,000 has been recommended for DCA's Program Support Division for FY 09. The funds in HB 230 would be an addition to the support provided through DCA's operating budget and could significantly expand the state's relationship with the Children's Museum. The House Appropriations and Finance Committee recommendation for DCA includes a recurring expansion of \$45,000 based on the nature of the Children's Museum and Science Center's statewide program.

According to its analysis of HB 230, DCA states that if the application is made, the department will contract with Explora Science Center & Children's Museum in Albuquerque.

Issues:

According to DCA, the appropriation would support outreach activities to communities statewide, focusing on young children, their caregivers, and the educators who serve them. Specifically, Explora has outlined four areas of continued outreach programming that will be supported by this appropriation:

- a school-based outreach program that provides standards-based presentations in classrooms throughout the state;
- a program that brings school-groups from all over the state to Explora to visit exhibits and participate in standards-based lessons;
- overnight "camp-ins," which allow groups from many communities to utilize the Explora facility and participate in overnight programs; and
- professional development programs for New Mexico educators, including instructional materials and training opportunities for educators and caregivers of preschool children in selected communities.

Related Bills:

HB 45 *CYFD Roswell Science Festival Support*

HB 209 *Albuquerque Children's Museum Programs*

HB 361 *Albuquerque Children's Museum Programs*