

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: HB 346

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: Albuquerque Preschool Programs

Sponsor(s): Representative Janice E. Arnold-Jones

Analyst: James Ball

Date: January 29, 2008

Bill Summary:

HB 346 makes an appropriation to support preschool programs in that part of Albuquerque bounded by Carlisle Boulevard, Comanche Street, San Mateo Boulevard, and Menaul Avenue.

Fiscal Impact:

\$50,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) for expenditure in FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

Issues:

Although HB 346 provides general support for preschool programs in a specific geographic area of Albuquerque, the Public Education Department's (PED) analysis of HB 346 indicates that the intent of the bill is to provide early morning (6:30 am to 7:00 am) child-care programs. The area of Albuquerque identified in the bill is described as low income, having many single parents and deprived of stable economic norms. PED states that DFA would contract with a private or community agency to provide child-care services for parents whose daily work schedule begins very early since many preschool programs are not open to receive children at that time of day.

Before- and after-school child-care providers funded through the Children, Youth and Families Department might also offer these services in the geographic area identified in HB 346.

Technical Issues:

If HB 346 is intended to provide child-care services in the early morning hours before the PreK program, the sponsor might consider the following language change on line 18: "~~preschool programs~~ before-school child care for PreK students in the area of the city . . ."

Related Bills:

None to date.