

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill No:** HB 559

**48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008**

**Short Title:** Taos Water Conservation Education

**Sponsor(s):** Representative Thomas A. García

**Analyst:** James Ball

**Date:** January 31, 2008

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**Bill Summary:**

HB 559 makes an appropriation to support water conservation education in the Taos Public Schools.

**Fiscal Impact:**

\$40,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Education Department (PED) for expenditure in FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

**Issues:**

According to the PED analysis of HB 559:

- there are several entities that offer water conservation education programs to youth in New Mexico, each emphasizing the importance of building a strong connection between children, their natural environment, and their cultural heritage;
- water conservation education projects can align with New Mexico Science Content Standards, Benchmarks, and Performance Standards, especially those that address the “complex relationships between living things and their environment”; and
- the appropriation could support a supplemental program for all students or be incorporated into the school district’s curriculum or be offered in some other way.

**Related Bills:**

HB 513 *Taos Schools Water Conservation Education* (identical)

HB 515 *Taos Schools Water Conservation Education* (identical)

HB 545 *Taos Schools Water Conservation Education* (identical)