

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: SB 58

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: ENLACE Program at Certain Colleges

Sponsor(s): Senator Bernadette M. Sanchez and Others

Analyst: Pamela Herman

Date: January 22, 2008

Bill Summary:

SB 58 appropriates funds to the Higher Education Department (HED) for expenditure in FY 09 for the ENLACE program. The appropriation shall be distributed equally to the University of New Mexico (UNM), New Mexico State University (NMSU), San Juan College, Santa Fe Community College (SFCC), and Clovis Community College.

Fiscal Impact:

\$2.0 million is appropriated from the General Fund to HED for FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

Issues:

- According to testimony presented to the LESC, the ENGaging LATino Communities in Education (ENLACE) program is designed to increase higher education attainment for Latino students, particularly those whose parents did not attend college, through partnerships between higher education institutions, high schools and middle schools, and the community. ENLACE uses a range of strategies including mentoring, tutoring, leadership development, scholarship support, and family support through the first two years in college to increase academic preparation and higher education access, retention, and graduation rates.
- According to HED, ENLACE is a national model for increasing Latino student success in the educational pipeline. In New Mexico, ENLACE was initially funded by a four-year, \$4.2 million grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, from FY 01 to FY 05.
- Since FY 06, the Legislature has appropriated \$3.24 million to HED to fund ENLACE.
 - For FY 08, HED states that it received \$1.34 for ENLACE through appropriations in the *General Appropriation Act of 2007*.
 - approximately \$1.15 million of this amount was in the form of recurring funding specified for projects initiated by special appropriations in prior years; and
 - \$200,000 was a new special appropriation to HED for ENLACE.
 - In addition, the Legislature has made separate recurring appropriations of approximately \$95,000 directly to UNM for the ENLACE Los Compañeros program.
 - For FY 09, the Executive has recommended funding for ENLACE at the FY 08 recurring level of \$1.15 million.

- During the 2007 interim, the LESC heard testimony indicating that ENLACE New Mexico expanded from its three original regional partnerships at UNM, NMSU, and SFCC to include new sites at Clovis Community College and San Juan College, in order to provide services to students in a wider area of the state. ENLACE now includes underserved minority students of all ethnic and racial backgrounds in its programs.
- The LESC heard testimony that in school year 2006-2007, 7,522 students were enrolled in one or more ENLACE programs, at a cost of between \$75 and \$128 per student per year; 82,350 students statewide contacted an ENLACE Family Center for some type of service; and ENLACE programs served 8,988 families in New Mexico.
- The LESC heard the results of two reports from ENLACE in 2007, which provide anecdotal evidence that the programs have a positive impact on student achievement and behavior for some of its participants. However, in order to clearly demonstrate the programs' successes, further study would be necessary.

Related Bills:

None