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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-3-2008

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Expand Schools in Dual Credit Program SB 31

ANALYST Dearing

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 31 carries no appropriation. If enacted, Senate Bill 31 amends section 21-1-1.2 NMSA 1978, Dual credit for high school and post-secondary classes, such that students in state supported schools are included among eligible participants; it expands HED/PED evaluation role to include reporting of state supported and charter schools. Additionally, the bill amends general eligibility provisions such that eligible high-school students could participate in *summer* courses offered by eligible post-secondary institutions. Lastly, Senate Bill 31 specifically exempts the New Mexico Military Institute from participation as an eligible institution.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

While Senate Bill 31 carries no fiscal appropriation, there are fiscal implications for participating schools newly included for eligibility. Specifically, cost issues for these institutions include costs to purchase text materials for students attending post-secondary institutions in dual credit programs. Additionally, it is unknown whether the aggregate dual credit tuition credit waiver for higher education institutions in the amount of \$1.92 million included in the FY09 House-passed version of House Bill 2 was estimated to include funds for students from the newly eligible schools.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Title 6, Chapter 31, Part 2 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (6.31.2 NMAC) defines a state-supported educational program as a publicly funded program that:

- (a) provides special education and related services to children with disabilities who come within the program's educational jurisdiction;
- (b) is operated by, or under contractual arrangements for, a state school, state educational institution or other state institution, state hospital or state agency; and
- (c) is primarily funded through direct legislative appropriations or other direct state support to a public agency other than a local school district.

According to the Public Education Department 2006-2007 Educational Personnel Directory and New Mexico Higher Education Department research, there are seven state-supported schools whose students would become eligible to participate in the dual credit program.

The Higher Education department response notes that New Mexico Military Institute is a private high-school, but a public post secondary institution. The department notes a question as to the treatment of student eligibility regarding students attending other local high schools enrolling in dual credit programs at NMMI, as opposed to NMMI high school students attending NMMI dual credit programs.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Requires expansion of reporting role of HED/PED.

PD/nt