

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: HB 232

50th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2012

Tracking Number: .188898.1

Short Title: Northern NM Boys & Girls Club Programming

Sponsor(s): Representatives Nick L. Salazar and Debbie A. Rodella and Others

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 2, 2012

Bill Summary:

HB 232 makes an appropriation to provide boys and girls club programs for northern New Mexico youth.

Fiscal Impact:

\$75,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of Northern New Mexico College for expenditure in FY 13 for support of programs at the Boys and Girls Club del Norte (BGCDN). Unexpended and unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

Substantive Issues:

BGCDN's website states that the organization's goal is to prepare children, ages 6-13, for the social pressures they will face in their teen years and beyond. Located on the grounds of Chimayó and Abiquiú elementary schools, the club serves local communities with after-school programs, which are open until 6:00 p.m. every school day.

The website further states that BGCDN offers a safe haven for vulnerable children, where they can receive help with their schoolwork and recreate in a cooperative and supervised environment. During the summer, the Club offers a six-week program from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, which emphasizes education, arts, crafts, games, and field trips that are educational as well as recreational.

Funding in HB 232 would support these goals and the specific activities noted below (see "Background").

Background:

According to the website of BGCDN, the club offers a number of activities for youth in the area. Among them:

- *Power Hour* helps Club members in grades K-6 achieve academic success by providing homework help, tutoring and high-yield learning activities and encouraging members to become self-directed learners.
- *Project Learn* reinforces and enhances the skills and knowledge young people learn at school during the hours they spend at the club based on the idea that students do much

better in school when they spend their non-school hours engaged in fun, but academically beneficial, activities.

- *Club Tech* is a basic computer skills program that develops proficiency with word processing, spreadsheet, and other productivity software through fun, hands-on, engaging lessons, and projects.
- *The Art Zone* is a visual arts program giving youth access to hands-on arts activities that enhances self expression and problem solving. An integral aspect of the program is to preserve the cultural traditions of northern New Mexico as well as to produce pride in the heritage of these traditions, including retablos, tinwork, fabric arts, and weaving.

Related Bills:

SB 125 *Before & After-School Programs*

SB 250 *Santa Fe Boys & Girls Club*