Bill Number: <u>HB 539</u>   <u>51st Legislature, 1st Session, 2013</u>

Tracking Number: <u>.192781.1</u>

Short Title: <u>NM Highlands Public School Teacher Assistance</u>

Sponsor(s): <u>Representatives Rick Miera and Sandra D. Jeff and Others</u>

Analyst: <u>Travis Dulany</u>   **Date:** <u>February 19, 2013</u>

Bill Summary:

HB 539 makes an appropriation to provide:

- research-based professional development and technical assistance to public school teachers; and
- youth and family engagement opportunities to public school students and their families.

Fiscal Impact:

$850,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Regents at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) for expenditure in FY 14. Unexpended or unencumbered funds revert at the end of FY 14.

Substantive Issues:

The NMHU bill analysis reports that funding contained in HB 539 would be used to support the university's Center for Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP), which is an educational diversity center that provides professional learning for teachers, administrators, and parents (see "Background," below).

According to the NMHU analysis, CESDP:

- is unique to New Mexico;
- represents a paradigm shift from previous models because:

  ➢ CESDP staff create plans for a convergence of resources at targeted school sites; and
  ➢ resources will be deployed through a comprehensive plan to deliver service;

- was developed around four component parts:

  ➢ research-based professional development;
  ➢ readiness to learn;
  ➢ family engagement; and
  ➢ youth leadership;

- staff will visit schools at least two to three times every other week to:

  - ➢ lead sessions;
  - ➢ train site-based trainers;
  - ➢ mentor teachers;
  - ➢ provide classroom modeling and coaching;
  - ➢ refine professional development plans based upon needs, experience, and outcomes; and
  - ➢ create project-based learning communities both in person and virtually using Innovative Digital Education and Learning (IDEAL-NM);

- provides professional development for parents and school staff that emphasizes practices that include cultural and family heritage with which students are familiar; and
- has developed a model of youth leadership during the past decade based in large part on the implementation of the Gaining Early Awareness of Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) and the Engaging Latino Communities in Education (ENLACE) programs.

The CESDP provides professional development and learning with regard to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which New Mexico adopted in 2009. The implementation plan for the CCSS begins with the school year 2012-2013 with the application of the standards in grades K-3, and will be implemented in all grades by school year 2014-2015.

Background:

According to the NMHU website:

- the CESDP is an educational diversity center that provides professional learning for teachers, administrators, and parents in the following areas:

  - ➢ culturally responsive teaching and leading;
  - ➢ English language learners sheltered instruction strategies and practices;
  - ➢ school, family, and community partnerships;
  - ➢ literacy and math across the curriculum;
  - ➢ academic language and thinking for all students;
  - ➢ CCSS; and
  - ➢ New Mexico English Development Standards;

- professional learning is supported through:

  - ➢ professional learning communities;
  - ➢ job-embedded development and support;
  - ➢ use of data to improve instruction;
  - ➢ parent, school, and community partnerships;
  - ➢ bilingual program support;
  - ➢ instructional support; and
  - ➢ youth leadership;

- "the CESDP was established by Legislature in 1993, under the auspices of NMHU, to provide technical assistance, distribute research findings, offer resources, and promote quality in public educational systems"; and
- the university states that the program's mission is to assist communities to improve the quality of education for students, families, educators, and community leaders.

Committee Referrals:

HEC/HAFC

Related Bills:

None as of February 20, 2013.