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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/13/13

SPONSOR McSorley LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE “We the People” Education Program SB 470

ANALYST Roberts

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY13	FY14		
	\$30.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	\$598.0	NFI	\$598.0	Nonrecurring	PED General Operating

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 320

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 470 appropriates \$30 thousand dollars from the general fund to the Public Education Department (PED) to fund a statewide “We the People” civic education program for elementary, middle school and high school students and educators.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$30 thousand dollars contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2014 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The PED reports that this bill would negatively affect the department's operations because it would require additional staff time to manage the implementation of the program. Additionally, this bill does not propose measures to monitor effective program implementation at the district or school level. With no system in place or the PED staff available to monitor program implementation, the program would be unlikely to have a significant impact on student achievement. The PED notes that this is contrary to the Strategic Lever 1 of the department's strategic plan "smarter return on investment" because it does not target dollars towards evidence-based programs which will have a direct result on improving school and student performance.

The PED further notes that passage of this bill will result in additional costs to districts for purchasing the required textbooks for the program. A class set of textbooks for the "We The People, The Citizen and the Constitution" program costs approximately \$560 dollars and assuming that each district will require, at a minimum, one class set of textbooks per grade (a total of twelve class sets per district), this bill will result in an additional cost to the agency of approximately \$598,000.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The PED notes that passage of this bill could negatively affect other PED programs due to the staff time that it will absorb to manage the program.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The PED would be responsible for administering the funds to fund a statewide "We the People" civic education program for elementary, middle school and high school students and educators.

RELATIONSHIP

This bill is related to HB 320 which would make an appropriation of \$15 thousand to the University of New Mexico to support the "We the People, the Citizen and the Constitution" program.

MIR/svb