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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/08/13

SPONSOR Sanchez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Study Dropout Rate and Substance Abuse SJM 54

ANALYST Chavez

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		Unknown				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates, Relates to, Conflicts with, Companion to SM 72

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Human Services Department (HSD)
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 54 (SJM 54) resolves that the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) address, during the interim, the correlation between school dropout rates and substance abuse by students in grades nine through twelve. SJM 54 also resolves that the LESC recommend legislative remedies that could be implemented in school districts that request such assistance to help decrease rates of substance abuse and school dropout. Finally, the memorial resolves that legislation for viable remedies be drafted for consideration by the second session of the 51st session of the legislature.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to SJM 54, New Mexico loses approximately 33 percent of students entering ninth grade prior to graduating from high school. The memorial notes that New Mexican students experiment with alcohol prior to age thirteen at higher rates than the national average, and also gives statistics on student drug use. Finally, the SJM 54 notes that the percentage of graduating high school students may be substantially increased by reducing the dropout rate by providing long-term alternatives to student experimentation with or abuse of drugs.

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The Behavioral Health Division (BHD) of the Human Services Department (HSD) suggests that the New Mexico Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative could be a resource to the Legislative Education Study committee in its research. The New Mexico Youth Risk & Resiliency Survey, High School Survey Results 2011 could provide a valuable resource. This survey was a joint effort of the Department of Health, Public Education Department, Children Families and Youth Department, Human Services Department, Behavioral Health Services Division, Albuquerque Area Southwest Tribal Epidemiology Center, University of New Mexico, Division for Prevention and Population Sciences, Health Evaluation and Research Team. The publication provides extensive information from a survey of high school youth on substance abuse as well as a full range of other issues affecting high school aged youth.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Senate Memorial 72 creates a task force to study truancy and dropout rates in New Mexico.

KC/svb