

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SB 40

51st Legislature, 2nd Session, 2014

Tracking Number: .195284.1

Short Title: NMSU Alliance for Advancement of Teaching

Sponsor(s): Senator William P. Soules

Analyst: James Ball

Date: January 30, 2014

Bill Summary:

SB 40 makes an appropriation to support the Alliance for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (AATL) at New Mexico State University (NMSU).

Fiscal Impact:

\$99,000 is appropriated to the Board of Regents at NMSU from the General Fund for expenditure in FY 15 and subsequent fiscal years. Unexpended or unencumbered funds do not revert to the General Fund.

Fiscal Issues:

According to the Higher Education Department, NMSU requested \$175,400 for FY 15 to continue funding AATL. The Executive recommendation for FY 14 funding is \$76,400. The expansion request is noted in SB 40.

NMSU states that the increase would restore funding to the amount appropriated in the first year the Alliance received a General Fund appropriation.

Substantive Issues:

According to NMSU, the expansion in General Fund support would allow AATL to increase professional development and technical assistance to teachers and administrators based on priority needs identified by the 17 member superintendents, including:

- interpreting data, evaluations, and assessments with a focus on End of Course Assessments and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers;
- professional development on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and math and reading;
- networking and collaboration utilizing resources at the University and in the community to address key issues in partner schools; and
- facilitating parent and community engagement for educational improvement.

Background:

NMSU notes in its analysis of SB 40 that AATL has responded directly to the needs of member districts each year including professional development in:

- instructional leadership;
- differentiated instruction;
- mental health and bullying prevention;
- reading literacy;
- mathematics support; and
- data analysis and evaluation in the CCSS.

NMSU further states that in FY13:

- 1,330 teachers and administrators received math-focused professional development;
- members were trained on the implementation of the CCSS;
- AATL supported the planning of the annual Kidd Literacy Conference; and
- workforce demand needs in the area were addressed through focused technical assistance provided to over 1,000 teachers.

Committee Referrals:

SCC/SEC/SFC

Related Bills:

HB 7 *General Appropriation Act of 2014*

HB 21 *After-School Club Teacher Development*

SB 192 *Brain Education Advanced Learning Program*