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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**ORIGINAL DATE** 02/03/14

**SPONSOR** Clahchischilliage      **LAST UPDATED** \_\_\_\_\_      **HB** 202

**SHORT TITLE** Native American Reading Communities Program      **SB** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANALYST** Sandoval

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	\$115.5	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 202 appropriates \$115.5 to the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) to support the Native American Intergenerational Reading Communities Program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$115.5 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2015 shall revert to the general fund.

There may be administrative costs to the IAD associated with administering this program.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to IAD analysis, Save the Children (STC) has been partnering with New Mexico schools to provide after school and summer literacy block programs for students in grades K-8 in schools with a high proportion of Native American students contingent on receipt of matching funds. They have served more than 2,300 Native American children in this unique partnership. In 2013 it was reported that STC has partnered with nine school serving Native American students in grades K-6. These schools are primarily located in the northwest quadrant of the state. The nine schools are:

- Ashiwi Elementary
- Church Rock Academy
- Crownpoint Elementary
- Cubero Elementary
- Dowa Yalanne Elementary
- San Diego Riverside Charter
- Thoreau Elementary
- Tohatchi Elementary
- Twin Lakes Elementary

Since 2006 the State of New Mexico has invested almost \$3.2 million toward the literacy program from the Indian Education Division. STC has matched this investment with 3 million in private raised funds. The return on investment has been an average equivalent to 3.3 months of additional schooling, an average of 52 books read by each student; and 62 percent of the students showed significant reading improvement. The STC reading literacy program has served more than 95 percent Native American children and has hired more than 65 percent Native American staff.

There is currently a National reading program for Native American children, “If I Can Read”, through the University of Texas at Austin founded by Loriene Roy, Professor in the School of Information. She is an Anishinabe (Ojibwe) enrolled on the White Earth Reservation and a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. ([www.utexas.edu/features/2006/reading/](http://www.utexas.edu/features/2006/reading/)).

IAD would request further clarification regarding:

- Definition of what the Native American Intergenerational Reading Communities Program involves.
- Has an entity/organization already been identified to implement this program?
- Since these appropriations will be funded through the IAD, will IAD determine how the funds are to be awarded? RFP or sole source?

## PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

IAD notes, HB 202 supports PED’s strategic goals for Strategic Lever #1: Smarter Return on New Mexico Investment and Strategic Lever #3: Ready for Success Initiative.

## ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The IAD oversight of these appropriations would require fiscal management, program development, RFP development, and possible on-sight review and assistance.

The IAD administers special projects each year that pertain to a number of cultural and educational topics and is well-suited to oversee the appropriation for a reading program.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

IAD advises that if HB 202 is not passed, the Indian Affairs Department may not have the funds available to administer any type of reading program. Alternatively, the current programs used within the state of New Mexico, Save the Children Reading Literacy will continue providing services to schools with high proportions of Native American students. Earmarking of Indian Education Division funds to match funds with Save the Children will also continue.

DS/ds