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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/09/15

SPONSOR Sapien LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE School Remediation & Promotion Policies SB 560

ANALYST Gudgel

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Regional Education Cooperatives (REC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 560 enacts a new section of the Public School Code that requires each school district to provide a professional development plan to PED by September 30 of each year that includes strategies and methodologies for reading, English language development or English as a second language.

Additionally, the bill requires each school district to include in its annual accountability report information related to remediation, proficiency, including reading proficiency, and retention and promotion decisions for students who did not achieve reading proficiency.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Fiscal impacts of the bill should be minimal for both PED and school districts.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill requires each school district to report the following to PED by May 1 each year in the annual accountability report:

- The number and percentage of students identified as requiring remediation;

- The number and percentage of students who received differentiated remediation programs and:
 - achieved reading proficiency within the school year; or
 - did not achieve reading proficiency within the school year, were recommended for retention and: 1) were retained in the same grade; or 2) were not retained in the same grade due to a parental waiver;
- Reading proficiency data for students who did not achieve reading proficiency and were promoted to the next higher grade due to a parental waiver; and
- Student assistance team promotion and retention decisions for students who previously were promoted to the next higher grade due to a parental waiver.

Pursuant to the Assessment and Accountability Act, each school district and state-chartered charter school is required to submit an accountability report. See Section 22-2C-11 NMSA 1978 (requiring PED to adopt a format for reporting annual yearly progress of public schools, school districts, state-chartered charter schools, an PED and requiring each local school district's report to include all locally chartered charter schools in the school district). This report is referred to throughout the Assessment and Accountability Act as the "accountability report". The new material in Section 2 of the bill only requires school districts to establish a professional development plan and include the new reporting requirements established in the bill. **The Legislature may want to consider including "state-chartered charter school" in the new material to ensure they are also required meet the new requirements.**

PED indicates that comprehensive data related to reading proficiency and retention is currently unavailable. Collecting the information required in this bill will give school districts, PED, and policymaker's access to data that will allow correlations to be made between reading proficiency, remediation programs and student promotion and retention decisions. However, PED cautions that the new requirements could be burdensome for school districts. PED's analysis did not address whether all of the information required to be collected is currently reported or could be captured in the STARS data system.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

School districts will be required to provide a professional development plan to PED annually that meets the requirements of the section (includes proposals for teachers to receive professional development to adopt effective instructional methodologies and strategies in the areas of reading, English language development or English as a second language) and include new reporting requirements in their annual accountability reports.

PED will be required to develop a report that includes the newly reported information for presentation to the Legislative Education Study Committee during the interim.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

As noted above, requirements in Section 2 are only applicable to school districts, despite state-chartered charter schools having to submit annual accountability reports. The Legislature may want to include state-chartered charter schools in Section 2 to ensure they are also required to submit a professional development plan and meet the specific reporting requirements established in the bill.