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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino ORIGINAL DATE _____
LAST UPDATED 3/12/2015 HB _____
SHORT TITLE NM Young Disability Leaders SM 48
ANALYST McReynolds

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	NFI	NFI	NFI

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 48 (SM 48) requests that New Mexico Young Disability Leaders be recognized for the project's role in promoting awareness and understanding of disabilities, and that the Public Education Department (PED) be requested to encourage each school board to use established disability curriculum that incorporates the goals for disability history and awareness. SM 48 further requests that each school district and NM state higher education institutions be encouraged to innovate and implement activities and programs that provide education, understanding and awareness of individuals with disabilities.

Copies of this memorial are to be transmitted to the Secretary of Public Education, the Director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), the Secretary of Human Services, the superintendent of the New Mexico School for the Deaf, the superintendent of the NM School for the Blind and the Visually Impaired, the superintendent of the NM Military Institute and the executive director of the Commission for the Blind.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No Fiscal Impact

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The New Mexico Young Disability Leaders is an advocacy group for people with disabilities, represented by disabled individuals ages eighteen to thirty-three. The group participates in panel discussions, has presented at conferences and has established a mentoring program to increase awareness and understanding of disabilities. PED reports that SM 48 encourages the creation of an educational culture that promotes both the inclusion of students with disabilities and discourages bullying. PED's analysis highlights that as of 2012, 60% of NM students receiving minimal Special Education services were in inclusion classrooms more than 80% of the time. Increased classroom inclusion for students with disabilities is an important target identified in NMPED's 2012 Annual Performance Report.

PED's analysis states that disability awareness programs educate students and nourish positive attitudes towards students with disabilities. Their research shows that negative attitudes toward individuals with disabilities begin to form early in life. Therefore PED feels that encouraging and promoting programs, which increase disability awareness at a young age, are important to fostering an accepting educational culture for students with disabilities.

KM/bb/aml