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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Beffort **ORIGINAL DATE** 3/16/15 **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** _____
SHORT TITLE Charter School Public & Private Grants **SM** 117
ANALYST Chavez

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY15	FY16	FY17	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total			NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

Senate Memorial 117 requests that PED be urged to apply for every federal grant for which the state is qualified to provide funding assistance to new and established charter schools for planning, keep current and disseminate a list of available public and private grants for which charter schools must apply directly, and requests that the secretary of public education report to the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) by November 1 on the department's success in applying for grants to charter schools.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The memorial requests PED apply for available federal grant and make charter schools aware of other funding opportunities. As PED analysis states this is current practice, this memorial will have no additional fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED analysis notes currently, the department applies for grants available to assist charter schools. PED further states, “the department takes their responsibility of seeking public and private grants seriously and values the importance of all fiscal funds available to the students New Mexico.”

PED adds that between fiscal years 2009 and 2014, PED received \$15.5 million from federal grant 84.282D, which provides grants to state educational agencies (SEAs) to support the planning, development, initial implementation and replication of charter schools and the dissemination of information on charter schools. SEAs receiving grants make subgrants to charter school developers; developers receive up to 3 years of assistance, of which they may use not more than 18 months for planning and program design and not more than 2 years for the initial implementation of a charter school.

PED states the funds received from this grant were disseminated to twenty-three eligible charter schools to assist with planning and establishment. The grant project end date was July 31, 2014. PED adds that after the close of these funds, no funds for federal grant from 84.282D were available.

Finally, PED analysis states the department will be attending a US Department of Education project director’s meeting in March 2015, which is required to be eligible for all upcoming grants. The PED further adds the department plans to apply for grant federal charter school grant funding.

PED additionally states currently lists all available grants on their website through Public Notice. However, LFC staff could not find any listing for such grants on the public notice section of the PED website.

KC/je