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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR HEC ORIGINAL DATE 2/21/17
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 163/HECS

SHORT TITLE School Grade Test Scores & Unexcused Absences SB _____

ANALYST Fernandez

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	FY18	FY19	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		See fiscal implications				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response Received

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Education Committee Substitute for House Bill 163 adds a new section to the School Personnel Act requiring PED to establish criteria to control for the potential effect of student attendance on a teacher's evaluation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

PED would need to ensure public schools and school districts are aware of the changes to the School Personnel Act and develop the criteria as required. The bill does not include an appropriation to cover the administrative cost associated with implementation of the provisions of this bill at PED or the local school district.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED must incorporate a measure of the student's attendance rate to account for any additional variation in student achievement growth and refine the prediction of student achievement growth to ensure that student attendance has zero effect on student achievement measures of a teachers evaluation.

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According to a prior PED analysis of a similar bill, in the 2014-2015 school year, 14.7 percent of New Mexico students were identified as habitually truant. Habitual truancy is defined as having 10 or more unexcused absences in a school year. Truancy impacts a student's ability to learn and grow, and often places them at higher risk for dropping out of school altogether.

CF/al