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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Small/Garcia Richard/ **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/10/17
Roch/Soules **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** 340

SHORT TITLE Education Strategic Planning Task Force **SB** _____

ANALYST Dulany

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

Responses Received From

Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House bill 340 creates the Education Strategic Planning Task Force, which is to function from the date of its appointment until December 15, 2019. The task force is to be appointed by the Legislative Council and the governor and include:

- three members of the New Mexico House of Representatives;
- three members from the New Mexico Senate;
- two members from public education stakeholder groups, including at least one group that is involved in the spectrum of education from early childhood through college;
- two school superintendents, one representing a district with fewer than 100 thousand students and one representing a district with more than 100 thousand students;
- two school board members, one representing a district with fewer than 100 thousand students and one representing a district with more than 100 thousand students;
- two members representing the business community; and
- three higher education members representing a research institution, a comprehensive institution, and an independent community college.

The secretaries of public education and higher education are to serve in an ex-officio capacity.

Staff for the task force are to be provided by the Legislative Council Service, Legislative Education Study Committee, and LFC.

The task force is to develop a work plan and budget for approval by the Legislative Council. Work of the task force includes a 20-year strategic plan framework upon which the Public Education Department (PED), Higher Education Department (HED), early childhood educators, school districts, charter schools, and public postsecondary educational institutions can build short- and long-term plans to improve public and higher education in the state. The bill requires the convening of advisory panels and requires the task force to deliver recommendations for necessary legislative and executive action to the Legislature and governor by November 1, 2019.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Page 3, lines 7 through 10, provides for public members of the task force to be entitled to per diem and mileage. The bill does not specify the source of funding for said per diem and mileage.

In addition to per diem and mileage paid for public members of the task force, state agencies included in the membership of the task force will incur costs in terms of staff time, travel, and office supplies. These costs are indeterminate at this time, as the length and frequency of task force meetings is unknown. The task force would further incur costs for staff time of the three legislative agencies in conducting research and preparing materials.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HB 340 includes membership for a superintendent and school board member from a district with more than 100 thousand students. Albuquerque Public Schools, the state's largest school district, has 91.4 thousand students according to PED's school year 2016-2017 enrollment report.

Membership representing community colleges is specific to independent community colleges. Branch campus community colleges attached to a four-year institution do not have separate appointed membership under the provisions of the bill. It is assumed branch campus community colleges would be represented through their parent institutions.

Statute currently includes several advisory or planning councils and committees for early learning and public and higher education issues, such as the Data System Council, the Early Learning Advisory Council, and the Children's Cabinet. One of the statutorily defined duties of the Public Education Commission is to advise PED on matters of public education policy. None of these entities carry the scope or breadth of membership contemplated by the task force established in HB 340.

In 2016, HED took the initial steps in establishing a statewide higher education strategic plan. The planning process included representatives from public education and the business community. Among the first actions taken in establishing the strategic plan, HED set a higher education attainment goal – 66 percent of working-age adults should have a postsecondary credential by 2030. In setting this attainment goal, HED acknowledged the goal cannot be accomplished by higher education institutions alone. Institutions would need to work with New Mexico employers to help retain credential-holding employees in the state as well as early learning and public education entities to ensure students are aware of opportunities and prepared for college.

ENMU states:

“Eastern New Mexico University would be very supportive of the creation of a statewide strategic plan that better integrates early childhood education, K-12 and higher education. Especially important is the analysis related to resources as without the appropriate level of investment achieving the desired goals of educating our population will be more challenging.”

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

What steps can be taken to ensure the task force’s recommendations are incorporated?

TD/jle/sb