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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/07/17

SPONSOR Sariñana LAST UPDATED _____ HM 9

SHORT TITLE Middle School Student Preparedness SB _____

ANALYST Amacher

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	FY18	FY19	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		>\$50.0			Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to: HB 125, HB 135, HB 158, and SB 34, SB 324

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
LESC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

House Memorial 9 requests the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) to study options to ensure that middle school students are ready to advance to high school, or in the alternative, are retained. HM 9 further requests options to reduce teacher turnover are identified. This study is to be presented to the Legislative Finance Committee by October 1, 2017.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Memorial 9 requests the LFC to participate in the study group with the Public Education Department (PED) and the LESL during the 2017 interim of identifying options to ensure student preparedness, retention, and reducing teacher turnover.

The mission of the LFC is to provide the Legislature with objective fiscal and public policy analyses, recommendations, and oversight of state agencies to improve performance and to ensure accountability through the effective allocation of resources for the benefit of all New Mexicans. The LFC consistently produces reports, evaluations, and other work products on a number of policy issues. The LFC staff maintains an interim work plan approved by the LFC. This study is not currently on the work plan and would require a reprioritization of resources and approval by the LFC.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

House Memorial 9 requests a study group comprised of the Legislative Education Study Committee, the public education department and the legislative finance committee to study options to ensure that middle school students are ready to advance to high school, or in the alternative, are retained. HM 9 further requests options to reduce teacher turnover are identified. This study is to be presented to the Legislative Finance Committee by October 1, 2017.

HM 9 acknowledges that student achievement in eighth grade has a greater impact on college and career readiness than performance in any other grade in high school. The middle school grades (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade) are a critical time in engaging students in a rigorous academic curriculum in preparation for high school, post-secondary education and careers.

HM 9 outlines a few of the challenges faced by middle schools, and teachers, and students that undermine the long term success of each student. Such challenges include insufficient funding and academic programming. Schools and teachers are not equipped to meet the social, emotional and educational needs of the students. As noted in HM 9, some middle school students graduate to the ninth grade without acquiring the necessary academic, social and emotional skills needed for a successful transition into high school. This perpetuates the challenges of the ninth grade teachers who are then tasked with addressing a greater degree of educational needs in each class of students which in turn impacts the instruction time of the class as a whole.

HM 9 highlights that New Mexico has the second-highest teacher turnover rate in the country which calls for a study to identify ways to ensure middle school student readiness for advancement; retain students not yet ready; and reduce teacher turnover in New Mexico.

RELATIONSHIP

HM 9 relates to HB 135, Early Childhood Teacher Development and SB 324, Early Childhood Educator Development, both appropriate \$2 million to the Children, Youth and Families Department for the professional development of early childhood educators.

HM 9 relates to HB 125, Teacher & Principal Evaluation System, requires the department to convene a council to create an educator-developed teacher evaluation system. SB 34 duplicates HB 125.

HM 9 relates to HB 158, Teacher Evaluation Pilot Project, which authorizes the creation of a pilot project for a fair and equitable teacher evaluation system.