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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/2020
 SPONSOR Pinto LAST UPDATED 2/04/2020 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE Shiprock College and Career Readiness Center SB 214
 ANALYST Gelay

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Relates to SB215

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 214 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Higher Education Department for the purpose of supporting Diné College to establish a college and career readiness and success program in Shiprock.

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed that the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY21 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The creation of a career and college readiness and success center could help youth and adults prepare for personal development and professional advancement. Planning for the transition from high school into college or the workforce, or returning to the workforce after an absence, is something that many people need support for, yet there is often nowhere to turn.

People in rural communities like Shiprock are especially at a disadvantage as many educational institutions and employment opportunities are found outside of the local community. Having a center dedicated to helping people interested in advancing academic or career goals would support interested individuals in setting short and long-term goals, and give them a place to go where staff would be dedicated to supporting their progress. The opportunity to connect with counselors and advisors who can mentor and guide an individual towards making choices and plans that support academic and / or career aims can make the difference between realizing objectives, or remaining stuck.

The New Mexico Constitution guarantees the right to a sufficient and equitable public education for every student in NM (New Mexico Constitution Article XII, Section 1.). The court in *Yazzie / Martinez* ruled that the State of New Mexico failed to provide American Indian students with a constitutionally sufficient and equitable education. A college and career readiness center at Diné College in Shiprock would provide a resource for students in that region to adequately prepare for college and careers.

PED reports that Diné College is a tribally controlled college located on the Navajo Nation, with approximately 11,500 students enrolled at six campuses, including in Shiprock and in Crownpoint. Diné College offers both Associate and Bachelor degree programs through four schools: 1) Art, Humanities, and English; 2) Diné Studies and Education; 3) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math; and 4) Business and Social Sciences.

PED supports college and career readiness through the administration of federal Career and Technical Education funds awarded through the federal Carl D. Perkins Act (Perkins). These funds are awarded when a postsecondary institution applies for funding with the allocations based on enrollment. There is an overweight for students who receive pell grants or Bureau of Indian Education grants. Diné College has not applied to New Mexico for Perkins funds; however, Diné College may have received Perkins funds through the state of Arizona or through a special Native American allocation administered directly through the U.S. Department of Education (USDE).

College and career readiness success centers generally provide career advisement to potential and current students. American Institutes for Research previously were in charge of the college and career readiness and success center, but the contract was terminated in 2019 after USDE funding ended. Currently, USDE does not offer direct support for best practices in establishing a success center.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Performance measures are not outlined in SB214. If passed, Diné College should work with PED and HED to develop specific performance measures.

It is unclear if PED or HED would oversee the performance of the success center.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HED will administer these funds involving receipt, disbursement, and tracking to Diné College.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB214 relates to Senate Bill 215, “Shiprock John Pinto Library Internet Access,” which seeks to appropriate \$494 thousand to establish broadband internet access at the library.

JGG/al