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**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE**  
**BILL ANALYSIS**  
**56th Legislature, 1st Session, 2023**

|                        |  |                            |                        |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Bill Number</b>     | <u>HB52/aHEC</u>                                 | <b>Sponsor</b>             | <u>Allison/Johnson</u> |
| <b>Tracking Number</b> | <u>.223667.1</u>                                 | <b>Committee Referrals</b> | <u>HEC/HAFC</u>        |
| <b>Short Title</b>     | <u>International Baccalaureate Program Tests</u> |                            |                        |
| <b>Analyst</b>         | <u>Hathaway</u>                                  | <b>Original Date</b>       | <u>2/2/23</u>          |
|                        |  | <b>Last Updated</b>        | <u>2/15/23</u>         |

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**BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee amendment to HB52 (HB52/aHEC) clarifies that funds appropriated to the Public Education Department (PED) to distribute to schools to pay for International Baccalaureate (IB) tests may be distributed to public schools and secondary schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE).

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 52 (HB52) appropriates funds to the Public Education Department (PED) to pay for International Baccalaureate (IB) tests. PED would distribute funds to public schools that offer International Baccalaureate (IB) programs to pay for tests.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to PED for expenditure in FY24. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY24 shall revert to the general fund.

**IB Assessment Costs.** There are various IB assessments, with costs in the United States ranging between \$76 and \$119. It is unclear how many IB assessments are taken annually by public school students in New Mexico.

**SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

**About International Baccalaureate Education.** The International Baccalaureate (IB), an international foundation nonprofit registered in Switzerland, offers four educational programs known as IB programs. IB offers a primary years program (ages three to 12), a middle years program (ages 11 to 16), the diploma program (ages 16 to 19), and a career-related program (ages 16 to 19). The International Baccalaureate must authorize programs for a school to offer them. Schools that offer IB programs generally follow a standardized, rigorous curriculum used in IB

program schools globally. About 1.95 million students around the world participate in IB programs.

**International Baccalaureate Programs in New Mexico.** The International Baccalaureate [reports](#) there are nine schools that offer IB programs in New Mexico:

1. Corrales International School (Albuquerque, locally-chartered charter school)
2. Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School (Albuquerque, locally-chartered charter school)
3. Mandela International Magnet School (Santa Fe, traditional public school)
4. Navajo Preparatory School (Farmington, tribally-controlled secondary [grant school](#) funded by the BIE)
5. New Mexico International School (Albuquerque, locally-chartered charter school)
6. Sandia High School (Albuquerque, traditional public school)
7. Taos International School (Taos, state-chartered charter school)
8. The International School at Mesa del Sol (Albuquerque, locally-chartered charter school)
9. UWC USA (Montezuma, international private boarding school)

Of these schools, four are locally-chartered charter schools (charter schools authorized by their local school district), one is a state-chartered charter school (a charter school authorized by the state's Public Education Commission), two are traditional public schools, one is a tribally-controlled grant school, and one is an international private boarding school.

**Distribution of Funds.** HB52/aHEC makes an appropriation for PED to distribute funds to public schools and secondary schools funded by the BIE that offer IB programs so the students attending these schools can take program tests free of charge. Given the provisions of HB52/aHEC for PED to distribute funds to public schools and secondary schools funded by the BIE, these funds would not be available for distribution to a private boarding school.

It is also unclear how PED would apply a methodology of awarding funds to schools if the appropriation is not sufficient to cover the costs of all program tests.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Public Education Department (PED) would be responsible for distributing funds to public schools that offer IB programs. It is unclear if the department has a process to identify administered IB program tests and disperse funds to pay for these tests; however, the department does receive a recurring appropriation to help students pay for advanced placement (AP) exams that could be similar in administration.

## **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

- LESC Files

**JKH/cf/mb/cf/msb**