



LFC Requester: Liu

**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:

Original Amendment
Correction Substitute

Date Prepared: 02/21 /25
Bill No: HB532

Agency Name and Code: PED - 924

Sponsor: Sanchez

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Short Title: STUDENT WATER SAFETY
GUIDANCE

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
None	None	N/A	NFA

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	None	None	None	None	N/A	NFA

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: The General Appropriation Act proposes to appropriate approximately \$1.5 million to the Department of the Environment for its environmental health program, which includes regulatory oversight of public swimming pools and spas.

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: House Bill 532 (HB532) would create a new section of the Public School Code to require that each local school board and governing body of a charter school adopt guidance for parents promoting student water safety on and around bodies of water and water infrastructure. Beginning in school year 2025-2026, all public schools would be required to provide this guidance to parents.

This bill does not provide an effective date. Laws go into effect 90 days after the adjournment of the Legislature enacting them, unless a later date is specified. If enacted, this bill would become effective June 20, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB532 does not contain an appropriation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

There are no current provisions in the Public School Code requiring the issuance of water safety guidance in schools. If the provisions of HB532 were enacted, school districts and charter schools would be required to adopt guidance regarding water safety.

Every year, there are more than 4,000 unintentional drowning deaths in the U.S. and drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury death among children ages 5-14. New Mexico [ranks in the top 15 states](#) in the U.S. for drowning deaths.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention promotes water safety through the [U.S. National Water Safety Action Plan \(NWSAP\)](#). The NWSAP contains several recommendations for water safety that include:

- using pool fencing;
- developing comprehensive drowning data surveillance;
- promoting and improving the rescue and resuscitation of the drowning victim by laypersons, lifeguards, and emergency medical services personnel; and
- improving protection and supervision by parents, group leaders and lifeguards of those in and near all types of open water, pools, and around the home.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for PED.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None.