

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 396 (SB396) amends sections of the Hispanic education act to:

- Include the higher education department in the entities listed in 22-23B.2C NMSA 1978 who are charged with working together to improve educational opportunities for Hispanic students.
- Add a new subsection to the purpose of the act to include ensuring the maintenance of the Spanish language.
- Amend 22-23B-4 NMSA 1978 to charge the Hispanic education liaison to include post-secondary education in the state plan as it relates to Hispanic student education.
- Amend 22-23B-6B(1) NMSA 1978 to clarify Hispanic student achievement will be measured by a statewide test approved by the public education department with results desegregated by ethnicity.
- Creates 22-23B-6B(5) requiring the status report to include information on school district initiatives to decrease the number of school dropouts and increase attendance.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB396 does not contain an appropriation. It clarifies sections of the Hispanic education act.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB396 clarifies the Hispanic education act includes New Mexico post-secondary education institutions. The Hispanic education act liaison, housed at the public education department, will be required to ensure they include post-secondary education institutions in their work.