

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION**

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**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

**Date Prepared:** 2/21/25

**Bill Number:** SB 461

**Sponsor:** Shannon Pinto

**Short Title:** Legislative Equity and Excellence Task Force

**Agency Name and Code Number:** NM Indian Affairs Dept 60900

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**Section II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
\$0	\$250	Nonrecurring	Public Education Reform Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
\$0	\$0	\$0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected

Sunny Lui, Analyst

<b>Total</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	NA	NA
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(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

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

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis:

Senate Bill 461 establishes an Equity and Excellence in Education Task Force, which will operate from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2029. The bill allows the task force to review New Mexico's public education system, the Yazzie/Martinez lawsuit, and how state and federal funds are used. The bill also proposes that the task force complete studies and make proposed recommendations regarding education, workforce preparation, and collaboration across sectors. The bill appropriate \$250,000 to fund the task force.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

No fiscal impact to IAD, however, the bill appropriates \$250,000 from the public education reform fund to the equity and excellence in education fund.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The Indian Education Act, the Indian Education Division, and the Native American Education Advisory Council already address many, if not all, of the items stated in the bill. Creating a task force risks duplicative efforts without adding significant new value, particularly as tribal consultation and input mechanisms already exist in current frameworks. Rather, fully funding PED would likely prove most useful.

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

#### **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

#### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

#### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

While the bill notes that the task force will include two people with Indian education expertise, it does not define expertise, nor does it state from where such representation should come, be it Nations, Pueblos, Tribes, or urban areas.

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**ALTERNATIVES**

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

**AMENDMENTS**