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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/03/09

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Expand Community Service Learning Opportunity SB 293

ANALYST Aguilar

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$56.0	Recurring	General fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 293 appropriates \$56 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department for the purpose of supporting a regional center network throughout the state to support teachers and community educators in incorporating service learning into standards-based education.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$56 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

PED notes service learning is currently a mandated option for elective credit for students in grades 9-12 (that is all high schools must offer service learning as an elective credit but students are not required to take the course/credit to graduate).

New Mexico has been the recipient of federal funding under formula grants to the states for Learn and Serve under the Corporation for National and Community Service K-12 School Based grants. Schools that have received this funding through an application process since 2003 include: Gadsden Independent School District, Silver Consolidated Schools, East Mountain Charter High School, Las Vegas City Schools, Santa Fe Public Schools, and Taos Charter School.

The Department has supported providing service-learning professional development for teachers and students statewide since 2006-07 through the Professional Development Fund appropriated to the PED. The PED has contracted through Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD) and its Commission for Community Volunteerism, for service learning professional development. As the funds have been reduced, the ability to provide those resources has also been reduced.

It appears that this level of appropriation will not support a regional center network and may not achieve the goals of the program.

PA/svb