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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/27/09

SPONSOR Cisneros LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Create Public Service Academy SM 26

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 26 would urge the United States Congress to pass the necessary legislation to create the United States Public Service Academy.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No Fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The United States faces serious domestic and international problems in the twenty-first century and needs more young people to go into public service as teachers, police officers, nonprofit leaders and other important public workers.

A public service academy will provide a consistent flow of highly qualified, service-oriented young leaders.

Many young people want to serve their country, but prefer to serve in a civilian capacity.

This country needs a public service academy that will be the nation's first national college devoted to public service outside of the military.

Many young people enter college wanting to serve their country, but cannot afford to pursue public service after graduation because they have accumulated too much debt.

A public service academy will give service-minded young people the opportunity to serve their country without enduring financial hardship.

A public service academy will offer a unique campus that is devoted to public service and that will bring young people from every part of the country to live, study and serve together.

A public service academy will build a corps of civilian leaders who have the moral character, academic training and leadership experience necessary to serve the American people honorably and effectively and who are committed to devoting their lives to public service.

The PED notes that The U.S. Public Service Academy website states:

“The U.S. Public Service Academy will be the civilian counterpart to the military service academies, a flagship institution designed to build a "more perfect union" by developing leaders of skill and character dedicated to service in the public sector.

“At the Academy, more than 5000 students will get a federally-subsidized undergraduate education focused on service and leadership development, followed by five years of service in public sector jobs following graduation. The Academy will develop a new generation of top-quality civilian leaders and will help transform the way Americans perceive, prepare for, and pursue public service.”

The HED comments that the PSA will provide the opportunity to serve their country without enduring financial hardship, but does not indicate how the tuition and fees will be paid.

GH/mt