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LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS
57th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2026

Bill Number	<u>SB142</u>	Sponsor	<u>Muñoz</u>
Tracking Number	<u>.232181.1</u>	Committee Referrals	<u>SEC/SFC</u>
Short Title	<u>Severance Bonds for Ed. Technology</u>		
Analyst	<u>Montoya</u>	Original Date	<u>2/2/2026</u>
		Last Updated	

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 142 (SB 142) amends the Severance Bond Act (Section 7-27-12 NMSA 1978) by taking a delayed repeal, also referred to as a “sunset,” which currently exists in statute, and placing it in a newly created section. SB142 makes a technical revision and would not result in a substantive change to current law, only where the current repeal is drafted in statute. The existing repeal date of July 1, 2030 would remain in effect.

SB142 does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns if enacted, or May 20, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT

SB142 does not contain an appropriation.

SB142 would maintain the July 1, 2030 repeal revision, commonly referred to as a “sunset,” for the continued annual issuance of supplemental severance tax bonds (SSTBs), and the corresponding transfer of these bond proceeds to the education infrastructure fund, administered by the Office of Broadband and Expansion (OBAE), which was enacted by [Laws 2025, Chapter 82 \(Senate Bill 401\)](#). Currently, up to \$10 million in SSTBs may be certified by OBAE and issued by the State Board of Finance annually. Upon the sunset date taking effect, the remaining unused and unencumbered balance of the fund would revert to the severance tax bonding fund pursuant to Section 7-27-49-C NMSA 1978.

SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Recent Legislation. Laws 2025, Chapter 82 (Senate Bill 401) transferred oversight of the Broadband Deployment and Connectivity Program (BDCP) from the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) to the OBAE. The law also created the education technology infrastructure fund, authorized the use of SSTB proceeds for education technology infrastructure, and directed OBAE, in collaboration with PSCOC, to develop statewide education technology infrastructure standards

and provide grant assistance to school districts, including charter and constitutional schools. Laws 2025, Chapter 82 authorizes the sale of up to \$10 million in SSTBs per fiscal year for these purposes and went into effect on July 1, 2025.

Broadband Development and Connectivity Program Structure. New Mexico's Statewide Education Network (SEN) connects kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) schools to secure, high-capacity internet through existing infrastructure provided by Internet Service Providers (ISPs). This network allows schools to benefit from reliable, high-speed internet, cybersecurity monitoring, distributed denial-of-service mitigation, and technical support—helping districts with limited resources maintain secure communication networks. BDCP staff have indicated the need for additional administrative and technical support to fully realize the potential of the SEN, including the allocation of the necessary staff to meet the goals of its initiatives. BDCP operates under OBAE, and is responsible for supporting the implementation and ongoing maintenance of the SEN.

During the 2024 interim, LESC staff presented a [brief](#) on New Mexico's SEN and the broadband landscape for education in the state.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There are no expected administrative implications.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- LESC Files
- Office of Business Access and Expansion (OBAE)
- New Mexico Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA)

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