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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/16/13

SPONSOR Miera LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HJM 37

SHORT TITLE Reading Literacy of Indian Children SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Chavez

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

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

HJM 37 is requesting for the Public Education Department (PED) to establish a working relationship with Save the Children to ensure current reading literacy initiatives for Native America students continue and to ensure the gathering of reading literacy data continue to assist the Indian Education Division at PED and Save the Children to be able to align and compare the literacy data collected.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to IAD, the costs to fund the literacy initiative in the state could possibly be a match between the PED and Save the Children, thereby providing good learning opportunities at a manageable cost to the state.

According to the PED, reading comprehension at the elementary school level is a major factor that influences comprehension of other core learning subjects. Failure to read proficiently is linked to higher student dropout rates and suppression of individual learning potential. Studies have shown that reading proficiently by the end of third grade is a crucial marker in a child's educational development.

The PED also notes that Save the Children’s New Mexico program aims to improve the reading comprehension and literacy of Native American children in nine schools in New Mexico.

The IED states that Save the Children has, since FY 2006-2007, had a rural literacy initiative for after-school programs that provide students served with the equivalent of an additional three and one-third months of academic reading instruction. Funding for this initiative was an earmark of Indian Education Act funds that were matched by Save the Children for FY’s 2006/2007 to 2011/2012. The strengthening of this partnership with PED would continue to improve literacy for Native American students, assist with their physical fitness through the “Healthy Choices Program” and increase cultural competency requirements by expanding the Native American after-school curriculum to include a new “Cultural Enrichment Program”.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The PED points out that this bill supports Lever # 3: Kids First, New Mexico Win and Lever # 5: Effective options for Parents. The bill also supports PED’s implementation of the Indian Education Act [22-12A-1 22-23A-8 NMSA], including provisions to ensure equitable and culturally relevant learning environments, educational opportunities and culturally relevant instructional material for American Indian students enrolled in public schools; and to ensure that parents; tribal departments of education; community-based organizations; the department of education; universities; and tribal, state and local policymakers work together to find ways to improve educational opportunities for American Indian students.

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

PED notes that it is bound by the state of New Mexico procurement code and follows the code in issuing requests for proposals, memorandums of understanding and contractual agreements.

KC/blm