

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill Number:** SM 30

**52nd Legislature, 1st Session, 2015**

**Tracking Number:** .199170.1

**Short Title:** NM Private-Sector Education Partnerships

**Sponsor(s):** Senator Mimi Stewart

**Analyst:** James Ball

**Date:** March 3, 2015

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**Bill Summary:**

SM 30 resolves that the importance of private-sector involvement in and commitment to preparing a highly skilled workforce through education and voluntary contributions by the following private-sector partners be recognized:

- Los Alamos National Laboratory;
- Sandia National Laboratories;
- US Air Force Research Laboratory;
- Intel Corporation;
- Public Service Company of New Mexico Resources; and
- Northrop Grumman Corporation.

The New Mexico Legislature and educators, as well as the private-sector partners, recognize that strong science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) educational programs are vital to the economic future of New Mexico. They have made strong efforts to close the disparity gap between STEM college graduates and the number of skilled workers need by industries.

In 2013, the partners invested more than \$80.0 million in STEM education and collectively contributed over 400,000 volunteer hours for STEM community activities. Current hands-on activities for students include the:

- New Mexico Supercomputing Challenge;
- New Mexico Electric Car Challenge; and
- RoboRAVE International and Science Bowls.

Additional collaborative efforts by the private-sector partners, the Public Education Department (PED), and the Higher Education Department include:

- working to certify 1,000 new science and mathematics teachers in New Mexico by 2020;
- coordinating their efforts while serving on the Math and Science Advisory Council; and
- providing high-quality, research-based professional development for New Mexico educators.

SM 30 requests that the private-sector organizations report on their progress to the Legislative Education Study Committee during the 2015 interim.

SM 30 further requests that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the:

- private-sector partners;
- Governor; and
- Secretary of Public Education.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Legislative memorials do not carry appropriations.

However, the Legislature provides funding for many STEM initiatives. House Appropriations and Finance Committee Substitute for HB 2 & 4, *General Appropriation Act of 2015*, provides the following appropriations for FY 16:

- \$329,000 to New Mexico State University (NMSU) Research and Public Service Projects;
- \$65,000 to NMSU;
- \$217,800 to University of New Mexico;
- \$149,600 to Northern New Mexico College; and
- \$2.4 million to the Public Education Department

**Committee Referrals:**

SRC/SEC

**Related Bills:**

SB 26 *Investment in NM Tech Collaborative Companies* (Identical to HB 66)

SB 387 *ENMU Science, Tech, Math & Health Degrees*

HB 34 *Science, Tech & Math Coach Program Units* (Identical to HB 159)

HB 60 *NMSU Science, Tech & Math Outreach*

HB 66 *Investment in NM Tech Collaborative Companies* (Identical to SB 26)

HB 159 *Science, Tech, & Math Coach Program Unit* (Identical to HB 34)

HJM 1 *Unified Science, Tech & Math Championship*