

**NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used for other purposes.**

The most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Romero DATE TYPED: 3/11/03 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE: School Improvement Pilot Project SB 670

ANALYST: Segura

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	N/A		**		

**\*\* Please Refer to Fiscal Impact Summary**

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)  
New Mexico Commission of Higher Education (CHE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 670 creates a five-year “school improvement pilot project” for three elementary schools to provide a model of student achievement and school improvement.

The SDE, in collaboration with local school boards, will select one elementary school from the Gallup-McKinley County Public Schools, the Albuquerque Public Schools and the Gadsden Independent Schools that were ranked as probationary schools in the 2002-2003 school year.

#### Significant Issues

Senate Bill 670 addresses the critical need to evaluate school improvement approaches and strategies using objective and systematic analyses. According to SDE, New Mexico currently has 113 schools in school improvement and corrective action, and 72 other schools face potential corrective action next year.

The bill proposes nine improvement activities to be implemented:

1. Provide extended contracts for school personnel for an eight-hour day,

**Senate Bill 670 -- Page 2**

2. Employ only teachers who are fully certified in the fields in which they teach and provide for transfers in accordance with the due process provisions of Section 22-10,NMSA 1978,
3. Provide a rigorous evaluation, mentorship and intervention program for teachers,
4. Constitute a school personnel committee that develops criteria for selecting teachers and makes recommendations to the principal on candidates,
5. Require the principal to employ new teachers from a list of three candidates recommended by the school personnel committee,
6. Provide after-school activities for students,
7. Provide full-day and full-year pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs,
8. Provide a five percent salary increase for teachers above any other salary increase approved by the local school board, and
9. Provide an additional \$10,000 annual salary differential above the local school board salary for each teacher that is National Board certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Senate Bill 670 does not contain an appropriation. The bill requires that each school district use its federal Title I funding to support the programs mandated in the legislation.

The SDE estimates that the costs to implement these initiatives in a probationary school are:

Albuquerque	\$464,860
Gadsden	\$355,056
Gallup	\$166,059

SDE notes that the average Title I allocations to probationary elementary schools in these districts in 2002-2003 are:

Albuquerque	\$218,165
Gadsden	\$175,882
Gallup	\$101,416

Therefore; even if these schools choose to commit all their Title I funds to these initiatives, funding would be insufficient to cover the total costs.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

SDE indicates that there would be an administrative impact on the department to develop, implement and monitor the program.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

The department indicates that funding to support the implementation of these initiatives must be consistent with the application of federal guidelines.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

Title I funds must be made at the local school or district level , consistent with Title I law and policies.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The SDE will develop an evaluation component to determine the progress of the participating elementary schools which is aligned with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 .

**RS/yr:njw**