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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Stewart DATE TYPED 02-13-04 HB 43

SHORT TITLE Kindergarten Plus Pilot Project SB _____

ANALYST Segura

APPROPRIATION

| Appropriation Contained | | Estimated Additional Impact | | Recurring or Non-Rec | Fund Affected |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|------|----------------------|---------------|
| FY04 | FY05 | FY04 | FY05 | | |
| | \$100.0 | | | Recurring | General Fund |
| | | | | | |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 43 appropriates \$100.0 to PED for the second year of the Kindergarten Plus Pilot Project.

Significant Issues

According to PED, the Kindergarten Plus Pilot Project was created as a three-year study that extends the kindergarten year by four months to demonstrate that increased time in kindergarten narrows the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and other students and increases cognitive skills leading to higher test scores for all participants.

House Bill 43 provides the following:

- Supports and aligns with the federally funded New Mexico Reading First Initiative and its goal of ensuring that all children in New Mexico learn to read fluently by the end of third grade.

- Supports and complements the statewide Full-Day Kindergarten Literacy Readiness Program.

The legislation addresses one of the most critical needs of disadvantaged students, early literacy proficiency.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bill 43 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund and is recurring.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

PED indicates that Public Schools must provide transportation, food services and the administration necessary for program implementation.

RS/dm