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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Miera DATE TYPED 3-07-05 HB 1079/aHEC

SHORT TITLE Los Puentes School Bilingual Education SB _____

ANALYST Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$150.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Amendment

House Education Committee amends House Bill 1079, the amendment re-titles and expands the program definition from “bilingual education and jobs programs”, to “a community-based multi-cultural career exploration initiative”. The funding would remain at the Los Puentes Charter School in Albuquerque.

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1079 appropriates \$150.0 to PED to fund programs for jobs and bilingual education at Los Puentes Charter School in Albuquerque.

Significant Issues

According to PED;

- Los Puentes serves 113 students in grades 8-12.
- 60% of the students are English Language Learners and 95% qualify for free-and reduced lunch program.
- The school serves students that are either at-risk of dropping out of school or who have returned to school.
- Its current operational budget (\$1.4 million), based on the 2003-2004 average of 123 students, does not provide sufficient funds for either a school-to-work training program or to develop a bilingual vocational program.

- The school receives \$11,938 in state bilingual funds, which are used to support bilingual services to 63 identified students. These funds were based on the number of bilingual students last year (29 students).

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

- PED indicates that the program will address the core performance measures related to implementation of education reform initiatives.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bill 1079 appropriates \$150.0 from the general fund and is recurring.

In addition, PED indicates the funds will provide:

- A year-long transition school-to-work program with professional development for staff, development of a curriculum and on the job training and employability skills for at-risk students through the Life Work Learning Program. Also, pre-vocational skills to Spanish-speaking students to assist them in learning a trade to get a job.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

PED would monitor the program and distribution of funds. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of GY06 shall revert to the general fund.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

House Bill 1079 requests funds for bilingual programs not covered under state bilingual funds that the school already receives.

RS/yr:lg