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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Beffort DATE TYPED 2/3/05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Require Honors Classes in Certain Schools SB 69/aSEC

ANALYST Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	N/A				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SEC Amendment

The Senate Education Committee amendment deletes the body of the bill, all references to grade six and adds language that:

“Beginning with the 2006 – 2007 school year, each school district shall offer at least on honors or similar academically rigorous class each in mathematics and language arts in each high school.” The bill’s title is changed to match the language in the bill.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 69 amends Section 22-1-4 NMSA 1978 that would require each school district to offer at least one honors class in all grades beginning with grade six. The bill does not contain an appropriation.

Significant Issues

Senate Bill 69 places students who qualify for and want to attend an honors class as a fourth priority for enrollment of students in schools.

According to PED, currently, determination of curricula is the purview of the local school district, with the provision that curricula align with New Mexico Standards, Benchmarks and Performance Standards.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 69 does not contain an appropriation.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

PED indicates that if Senate Bill 69 is enacted, staff would need to develop the definition of “honors” class and then ensure that appropriate honors course descriptions were written and in place within the Accountability Data System.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

According to PED, Senate Bill 69 does not include a definition or description of an “honors” class.

RS/lg:yr