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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	Nav	a	ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED	02/12/2007	HB	
SHORT TITL	Æ.	RE: Learning Prog	ram		SB	244

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

ANALYST Moser

Арргор	riation	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$750.0	Recurring	General fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

<u>Responses Received From</u> NM Department of Higher Education (HED) Department of Public Education (DPE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 244 appropriates \$750,000 from the General Fund to Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) for expenditure in FY08 to continue the Re: Learning program to support school improvement in all grades of public schools statewide.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$750,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Re: Learning has been funded with General Fund resources to work toward educational renewal in the state since 1989. Re: Learning provides technical assistance and professional development to New Mexico public schools and districts. The program is non-prescriptive, working instead to

Senate Bill 244 – Page 2

meet each school's individual needs for training as defined in its Educational Plan for Student Success (EPSS). Re: Learning is organized to respond to the immediate needs of schools, communities, and districts, providing service at no cost to the school or district. Offices for Re: Learning is located in Santa Fe, Las Cruces, and Ruidoso.

Fully committed Re: Learning schools are those schools whose principal participates in the Re: Learning Principals Leadership Institute. As a part of the commitment, Re: Learning staffs are expected to be an important presence at the school site providing training, coaching, and mentoring as needed. Other schools may access Re: Learning technical and budgetary assistance for work which helps them meet the needs of their schools based on the EPSS.

Currently, Re: Learning focuses regional workshops on math concepts and writing in math (demonstrated math understanding) that address student performance on standardized tests. Training also includes dealing with different learning modalities. Schools needing to improve their adequate yearly progress (AYP) have been targeted for services.

The proposal of \$750,000 was not submitted to HED by ENMU and was not included in the department's funding recommendation for FY08.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

HED indicates that this program has been funded on an annual basis. Without funding, the state would lose an important program that assists in ensuring students graduate from high school better prepared to succeed in higher education.

GM/nt