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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-10-2007

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE NM Golden Apple Program SB 246

ANALYST Dearing

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

\*Relates to Appropriations in the General Appropriations Act.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 246 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund for expenditure in FY08 to the Public Education department to support the Golden Apple program in support of New Mexico teachers.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in Senate Bill 246 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.

The LFC remains concerned with funding initiatives outside of the funding formula as it tends to dis-equalize school funding and diverts funding away from core educational needs.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Senate Bill 246 would appropriate \$500 thousand to PED for the Golden Apple Program. The program has previously provided supplementary mentoring to Level I teachers. The program goals are to increase teaching effectiveness and increase career progression for teachers under the 3-tiered system.

The program provides training and preparation for mentors to beginning teachers in classrooms to assist in professional development. The program supports new teachers through a comprehensive summer program, including collaborative teaching, supervision by mentors, reflective seminars and instruction on the 3-Tiered Teacher Licensing system.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

This program could increase the number of highly qualified teachers, assisting in efforts to improve Adequate Yearly Progress under the No Child Left Behind federal mandate.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Public Education department states that there have been recurring issues arising in conjunction with administration of funds for this program.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

\*FY07 Golden Apple funds were transferred into the Teacher Professional Development Fund. The Teacher Professional Development fund received appropriations totaling \$4.4 million through the Public School Support budget in FY06 and FY07. No additional funding was recommended for the fund for FY08. PED has allocated these funds over a variety of teacher development initiatives. According to the Public Education department, the Golden Apple program received \$225 thousand in FY07.

The Public Education department states that this appropriation complies with Article IV, Section 31 of the New Mexico Constitution, yet the contract award for this program would require the department to issue a request for proposal (RFP).

PD/mt