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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-10-2007

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Fiesta Educativa Parent Conference & Outreach SB 254

ANALYST Dearing

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$15.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 254 appropriates \$15 thousand from the general fund for expenditure in FY08 to Public Education department for the Gadsden independent school district for Fiesta Educativa parent conference and outreach activities.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$15 thousand contained in Senate Bill 254 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 254 appropriates \$15 thousand to the Public Education department for the Fiesta

Educativa parent conference and outreach activity for special needs children in the Gadsden independent school district. The conference provides education for parents of special needs children, brings together efforts from various agencies that provide screenings for children that may need early intervention and offers booths for service providers for special needs populations. All materials and services are provided in Spanish and English.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

According to the Public Education department, this bill does not directly relate to any public school or department performance measures; however, the initiative *indirectly* relates to the department's "Percent of bureaus meeting the PED customer service standards" performance measure. It is thought that bilingual outreach efforts and promotional materials would include contact and overview information for some of PED's bureaus, specifically the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

If enacted, Senate Bill 254 would require that the department distribute these funds to the Gadsden independent school district. If the bill is passed, the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau shall notify the district about the amount and how to access the funds.

TECHNICAL ISSUES/ ALTERNATIVES

The department suggests use of IDEA funds as an alternative to the appropriation in Senate Bill 254.

PD/mt