

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: HB 842

49th Legislature, 1st Session, 2009

Short Title: Santa Fe School Tennis Lessons

Sponsor(s): Representative Ben Lujan

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 26, 2009

Bill Summary:

HB 842 makes an appropriation for a tutoring program in math, English, language arts, and tennis lessons in the Santa Fe Public Schools and the Pojoaque Valley Public Schools.

Fiscal Impact:

\$35,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Education Department (PED) for FY 10.

Unexpended and unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

Fiscal Issues:

In its analysis of HB 842, PED notes that First Serve–New Mexico, a program that combines academic tutoring with physical activity, has received the following funding through the department:

- \$45,000 in FY 06 for elementary school physical education and anti-obesity programs;
- \$45,000 in FY 07 for before- and after-school programs that include physical activity and nutrition education; and
- \$45,000 in FY 08 for anti-obesity programs in school districts statewide.

In addition, the Tennis & Education Foundation, the philanthropic and charitable entity of the United States Tennis Association, awarded 19 grants in its spring 2008 funding cycle, including a grant of \$20,000 to First Serve–New Mexico.

Issues:

To illustrate the benefits of First Serve–New Mexico, the PED analysis of HB 842 states that:

- 98 percent of the students participating improved over the school year in at least one academic area;
- 90 percent improved or maintained a grade of A in math and/or English;
- 81 percent improved in math skills; and
- 95 percent improved in standardized testing scores.

Background:

Although the tutoring program funded by HB 842 is not necessarily intended for after-school hours, it seems to share some of the purposes of an after-school program. According to PED, an after-school program is intended to:

- produce connections with individuals or activities that are healthy and supportive of positive growth and development of life skills;
- emphasize healthy relationships and behaviors so that students are less likely to engage in risk-related relationships and behaviors;
- promote relationships with supportive adults as well as positive peer-bonding opportunities within the school;
- provide extracurricular activities that appeal to different interests;
- support obesity prevention initiatives; and
- enhance school attendance, graduation rates and student performance by helping to increase the number of students performing at grade level in math and reading.

In addition, the website of the United States Tennis Association also states that its foundation strives to promote healthy lifestyles by:

- combating childhood/adult obesity by providing disadvantaged, at-risk children the opportunity to learn to play tennis and improve their academic skills in a structured format;
- teaching healthy nutrition and lifestyles, responsible citizenship, study skills, and computer literacy;
- preparing students for college; and
- teaching students how to play tennis in a team format.

Related Bills:

- HB 80 *Taos County After-School Program*
- HB 483 *Mountainair After-School Learning Center*
- HB 514 *Bernalillo Stay in School Program*
- HB 595 *West Las Vegas School Enrichment Services*
- SB 96 *Taos After-School Program*
- SB 168 *Gadsden Community Education Center*
- SB 632 *West Las Vegas Community Learning Center*
- SB 634 *Mora Schools Community Learning Center*