

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: HB 103a

50th Legislature, 1st Session, 2011

Tracking Number: .183657.1

Short Title: Develop Statewide Nursing Program

Sponsor(s): Representatives Eleanor Chávez and Danice Picraux and Others

Analyst: Ally Hudson

Date: March 1, 2011

AS AMENDED

The House Education Committee amendment requires that a statewide nursing program be used by all public postsecondary educational institutions that offer an associate, bachelor's, or advanced degree nursing program.

Original Bill Summary:

HB 103 requires the Higher Education Department (HED) to develop a statewide nursing program that provides for:

- a common curriculum, including clinical education and the effective use of distance learning and simulation, including standard prerequisite and core courses;
- shared use of nursing faculty among the public postsecondary educational institutions;
- an articulation plan for dual credit among postsecondary institutions and between secondary schools and postsecondary institutions;
- coordination and shared use of clinical sites;
- allocation of credit hours and tuition when students take classes from multiple schools;
- faculty workload and reimbursement when engaged with students from multiple institutions;
- determination of student financial aid for students taking classes from multiple schools;
- early entry into Master's of Science in nursing and nursing doctoral programs;
- a compensation package and implementation plan to improve nursing faculty compensation;
- funding allocation transparency in the higher education funding formula and other revenue sources; and
- comprehensive data collection and analysis.

Finally, HB 103 requires that the statewide nursing program be implemented by the fall 2013 semester at all public postsecondary educational institutions that offer nursing degrees.

Fiscal Impact:

HB 103 does not contain an appropriation.

Fiscal Issues:

According to HED's analysis, passage of HB 103 would result in an administrative impact to the department. However, it is unclear how significant the impact would be.

Substantive Issues:

According to the analysis by the Department of Health (DOH), HB 103 is the result of HM 50 (2010), *Develop Statewide Nursing Education Plan*, which requested that the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence (NMCNE) and the New Mexico Board of Nursing (NMBON) convene a task force to develop a statewide nursing education plan. According to an analysis from HED, the task force reported to the Legislature on the plan in October 2010 and indicated that much of the work outlined in HM 50 has already begun or been accomplished.

HED's analysis of HB 103 states that, since December 2009, the NMCNE has met regularly to:

- develop a common vision;
- recruit schools and obtain memoranda of agreement;
- establish an infrastructure;
- structure their work; and
- with a grant from the NMBON, Nursing Excellence Fund, establish committees made up of faculty from around the state to begin designing a common curriculum that will include clinical education and the effective use of simulation, as well as clinical site opportunities and coordination.

Finally, HED explains, the task force plans to have a common curriculum in place by 2013.

Among its other points, HED's analysis indicates that the department plans to work with the NMCNE, and the NMBON "to fulfill the mandate of HB 103." Specifically, HED will develop policies and infrastructure that address administrative issues, including:

- faculty workload and reimbursement when engaged with students from multiple schools;
- funding through the funding formula, and other potential sources, to include a process of funding allocation transparency;
- the need for simulation support in terms of equipment, faculty, and administrative support;
- the allocation of credit hours and tuition when courses are taken from multiple schools;
- financial aid for students enrolled in classes from multiple sources; and
- the development of a compensation package and implementation plan to improve nursing faculty compensation.

Related Bills:

HJM 14 *Track Nursing Education Funding*