

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill Number:** HJM 14

**50th Legislature, 1st Session, 2011**

**Tracking Number:** .183380.1

**Short Title:** Track Nursing Education Funding

**Sponsor(s):** Representative Eleanor Chávez & Others

**Analyst:** Ally Hudson

**Date:** February 1, 2011

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**Bill Summary:**

HJM 14 requests that the Higher Education Department (HED):

- track funding for nursing education through the Nursing Program Enhancement Fund, the HED funding formula, and other funding for nursing education;
- cooperate with nurse educators and institutions that educate nurses in the development of a statewide plan for nursing education; and
- report to the interim Legislative Health and Human Services Committee by November 2011 on its progress toward developing regular reporting mechanisms on the distribution and uses of nursing funds, make recommendations for changes to the current formulas for funding nursing education, and report on the development of a statewide plan for nursing education.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Legislative memorials do not contain an appropriation.

**Fiscal Issues:**

Memorials requesting that state agencies conduct studies are likely to have a fiscal impact in terms of staff time, travel, office supplies, and other items. This impact could be especially pronounced if the agencies are experiencing budget reductions or staff furloughs.

**Background:**

HJM 14 is related to HM 50, *Develop Statewide Nursing Education Plan* (2010 regular session, signed), which requested that the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence (NMCNE) and the Board of Nursing 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.

According to HED, since December 2009, the NMCNE has met regularly to develop a common vision, recruit schools and obtain memoranda of agreement, establish an infrastructure, and structure their work. Additionally, with a grant from the New Mexico Board of Nursing, Nursing Excellence Fund, the task force is establishing 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.

HED has also indicated that the department plans to work with the NMCNE and the New Mexico Board of Nursing to continue developing a statewide nursing program. 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:**

HB 103 *Develop Statewide Nursing Program*