

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SJM 33

50th Legislature, 1st Session, 2011

Tracking Number: .185689.1

Short Title: Community College Developmental Education

Sponsor(s): Senator Cynthia Nava

Analyst: James Ball

Date: March 10, 2011

Bill Summary:

SJM 33 requests that the Higher Education Department (HED) continue the work of a task force to study developmental education at community colleges. The task force shall recommend ways to:

- improve student performance based on best practices;
- establish data benchmarks and measurements for developmental education; and
- recommend funding incentives to improve student success.

SJM 33 further requests that the task force report its findings and recommendations to the Legislative Education Study Committee by September 1, 2011.

Fiscal Impact:

Legislative memorials do not contain appropriations.

Substantive Issues:

According to HED's analysis of SJM 33, a January, 2011 policy brief of the Education Commission of the States (ECS) stated that almost 60 percent of students entering the nation's community colleges require some form of remediation in math, reading or English. Only about 15 percent of these students continue on to college-level work in one year and still fewer complete a postsecondary credential. ECS estimates that remedial education could be costing the United States upwards of \$2.0 billion annually.

Background Issues:

According to their website, Clovis Community College provides developmental services to its students that are typical of other such services offered by community colleges statewide. These include:

- Adult Basic Education (ABE)/General Educational Development (GED) certification;
- assistance/counseling with life issues;
- citizenship test preparation;

- college prep and skills development;
- Curry County Literacy Council work to eliminate illiteracy in Curry County;
- English as a Second Language;
- tutoring; and
- Writing Center.

Related Bills:

None as of 3/10/2011.