

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/08/11

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Defining "Habitual Truant" SB 290

ANALYST Haug

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 290 amends Section 22-12-9 NMSA 1978 to clarify the language in the definition of “habitual truant”. The clarification ensures that a student must have 10 days of accumulated unexcused absences before they are identified as a “habitual truant”. Current language is vague in terms of what the term *ten* means.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 290 contains no appropriation and has no fiscal impact.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The PED notes the clean up language makes the law clearer; it does not change current practice and reports that it currently collects and reports data for habitual truancy as meaning “ten” days. According to the *Habitually Truant School Type Report*: 12.5% of students were identified as habitual truants in the 2008-2009 school year.

GH/bym