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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/26/12

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Before and After School Programs SB 125

ANALYST Chabot

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY12	FY13		
	\$4,000.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 125 appropriates \$4.0 million from the general fund to PED for the purpose of funding before- and after-school programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$4.0 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2013 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED anticipates staff would need to award funds to public schools through a request for application process, approve budget adjustment requests, monitor expenditures and provide assistance to funded sites. Additionally, contracts may be required to manage the appropriation. PED states this can be accomplished with existing staff.

PED provides a history of funding for after-school program funding:

- FY08, \$2.0 million with 26 sites funded;
- FY09, \$3.3 million with 42 sites funded;
- FY10, \$939.0 thousand with 16 sites funded;
- FY11, \$144.4 thousand with 4 sites funded; and
- FY12, no funding.

PED cites statistics from the U.S. Department of Labor that 26 percent of school children are “on their own” after release from school and only 15 percent are enrolled in after school programs. There is a spike in juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, cigarettes and sex during the hours of 3:00 to 6:00 PM (Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2002) In New Mexico, 22 percent are responsible for taking care of themselves after school and 17 percent of K-12 students participate in after school programs.

CYFD points out before and after school care is provided by several sources, including programs operated by public school systems, programs licensed by CYFD, city and county programs, national organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club, and informal home-based care. The bill does not specify whether the before and after school programs would be held to any specific standards.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The PED will have to publish criteria so that school districts can apply for funds and develop qualifying before- and after-school programs.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Because of no funding in FY12, PED states public schools will have to implement programs and those without any expertise may not be able to respond effectively in creating after-school programs.

ALTERNATIVES

PED states the sponsor may want to consider extending the appropriation through FY14.

GAC/amm:svb