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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/06/12

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Support for Adolescents With Autism SB 254

ANALYST Chabot

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY12	FY13		
	\$220.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY12	FY13	FY14	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$220.0	\$226.4	\$446.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 221, SM20 and HB 148

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Department of Health (DOH)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 254 appropriates \$220.0 thousand from the general fund to the PED for the purpose of funding academic and behavioral support for adolescents with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), including professional development, in the Las Cruces public, Hatch Valley public and Gadsden independent school districts..

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$220.0 thousand 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. Per LFC letter dated January 16, 2012, appropriations for public education will grow approximately 3 percent per year through FY 15. According to the LFC staff General Fund Recurring Appropriation Outlook for FY14 and FY15, December 2011 forecasted revenues will be insufficient to cover growing recurring appropriations.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 1 in 110 children in the U.S. have ASD.

DOH contracts with one agency to provide adaptive skill building services to a small pilot group of school-age student diagnosed with ASD in Dona Ana County.

CYFD states cost of lifelong care can be reduced by as much as two-thirds with early diagnosis and intervention for children with ASD.

PED receives and distributes to districts, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B funding that can be used for working with individuals with ASD. The agency estimates Gadsden has 103, Hatch 4, and Las Cruces 369 children enrolled in schools diagnosed with ASD.

GAC/svb