

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: HB 477

51st Legislature, 1st Session, 2013

Tracking Number: .192510.1

Short Title: Teacher Mentorship Program

Sponsor(s): Representative Doreen Y. Gallegos and Others

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 15, 2013

Bill Summary:

HB 477 makes an appropriation to contract with a not-for-profit agency to:

- operate and manage a program that matches master teachers with students in teacher preparation programs and with new teachers in their first three years of teaching;
- offers meaningful experiences for students in teacher preparation programs; and
- provides professional development opportunities.

Fiscal Impact:

\$140,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Education Department (PED) for expenditure in FY 14. Unexpended or unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

Substantive Issues:

HB 477 provides resources for early mentorship by master teachers for students enrolled in teacher preparation programs. The contractor for these services can also provide assistance to school districts in meeting their beginning teacher mentorship requirements.

Background:

State statute requires that all Level 1 beginning teachers employed in a New Mexico public school district, charter school, or state agency successfully complete a one- to three-year teacher mentorship program provided by the employing district, charter school, or agency.

According to the TeachNM website, induction and mentorship of new teachers has been identified nationally as a critical part of teacher retention, student achievement, and enhanced school culture. Quality support for beginning teachers can make an almost immediate positive impact on their students.

Committee Referrals:

HEC/HAFC

Related Bills:

HB 481 *Evidence of Teacher Competency*
SB 475 *Evidence of Teacher Competency*