

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SM 65

52nd Legislature, 2nd Session, 2016

Tracking Number: .203252.3

Short Title: Early Childhood Service Provider Task Force

Sponsor(s): Senators Pete Campos and Sue Wilson Beffort

Analyst: Christina McCorquodale

Date: February 3, 2016

Bill Summary:

SM 65 requests the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) and the Public Education Department (PED) convene a task force to study how to increase communication, coordination, and collaboration among early childhood service providers. The memorial requests that the task force include stakeholders in early childhood education. The memorial also requests the findings and recommendations are reported to the Legislative Health and Human Services (LHHS), the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC), and the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) by October 1, 2016.

Fiscal Impact:

The memorial does not include an appropriation. State agencies would be expected to absorb the cost of the proposed task force study within existing resources. The following agencies are requested to participate: CYFD's Early Childhood Services Division, PED's Literacy and Early Childhood Education Bureau, Indian Affairs Department, New Mexico Head Start Association, New Mexico Tribal Head Start Association, New Mexico Child Care and Education Association, New Mexico Early Learning Advisory Council, and Family Child Care Homes.

Substantive Issues:

New Mexico pre-kindergarten state funds and programs have displaced and supplanted federal funding, resulting in reverting back substantial funding to the federal government. This has resulted in under-enrollment at various New Mexico Head Start programs around the state. Allocation of limited state funding has also been uneven and some communities with early childhood services for four-year-olds receive disproportionately more funds than other communities, which has resulted to the closure of some private and nonprofit programs.

Increased communication, collaboration and coordination among CYFD, PED, and early childhood service providers would support parents obtaining better information on access to the variety of services available to families with children from birth through age 5. The collaboration and coordination has potential to maximize state resources and prevent duplication of efforts.

Related Bills:

SB 182 *Guadalupe County Early Childhood Programs*
CS/SJR 2 *Permanent Funds for Childhood Education, CA*
HB 221 *Early Childhood Educator Development*
HJR 10 *Permanent Funds for Early Childhood, CA*