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**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE**  
**BILL ANALYSIS**  
**54th Legislature, 1st Session, 2019**

<b>Bill Number</b>	<u>SB551</u>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<u>Campos</u>
<b>Tracking Number</b>	<u>.212802.1</u>	<b>Committee Referrals</b>	<u>SEC/SFC</u>
<b>Short Title</b>	<u>Northeast NM College &amp; Career Readiness</u>		
<b>Analyst</b>	<u>Force</u>	<b>Original Date</b>	<u>2/15/19</u>
		<b>Last Updated</b>	<u></u>

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**BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 551 (SB551) would appropriate \$508 thousand from the general fund to the High Plains Regional Education Cooperative (HPREC) for expenditure in FY20 to develop and operate a college and career readiness consortium for middle and high school students in northeastern New Mexico. Unexpended or unencumbered balances will revert to the general fund at the end of FY20.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

SB551 appropriates \$508 thousand from the general fund to the HPREC.

**SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The primary goal of secondary education is to prepare graduates for success, including enrollment into postsecondary institutions or successful entry into the workforce. Producing graduates who are college- or career-ready is an issue of economic health and stability; greater numbers of well-prepared graduates means more skilled workers to fill high- and middle-skilled job vacancies, potentially attracting more business to the state and enhancing the local and state economies.

Judge Singleton's decision in the consolidated *Martinez* and *Yazzie* lawsuit indicated New Mexico has failed its constitutional obligation to provide every student with the opportunity to become ready for college or career. The order requires the state to take steps by mid-April to ensure New Mexico schools are equipped to give all students, especially at-risk students, the opportunity to obtain a uniform and sufficient education to prepare them for college and career.

HPREC comprises the following local school districts: Cimarron Municipal Schools, Clayton Municipal Schools, Des Moines Municipal Schools, Maxwell Municipal Schools, Mosquero Municipal Schools, Raton Public Schools, Roy Municipal Schools, and Springer Municipal Schools. Together, those school districts have a total enrollment of 2,205 students, of which 1,388 are middle or high school students.

New Mexico Independent Community Colleges indicates, while there is no direct impact on its member institutions, they would welcome the chance to work with HPREC to support their efforts to prepare students for college and career. Los Lunas Community College serves students throughout northeastern New Mexico at its Las Vegas and Mora sites, as well as its satellite operations in Springer and Santa Rosa.

## **RELATED BILLS**

HB91, Career Technical Education Pilot Project, establishes a seven-year pilot program to fund high-quality Career Technical Education (CTE) programs and monitor their effects on student outcomes.

HB183, Apprenticeship Program for Graduation, requires PED to establish procedures for student to be awarded credit for graduation requirements through completion of work-based training and apprenticeship-related instruction while enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program.

HB299, Career & Technical Student Organizations, appropriates \$650 thousand to Regional Education Cooperative 6 to support middle school, high school, and postsecondary students in six state-chartered intra- and co-curricular career and technical student organizations, and is identical to SB353.

HB453, School Development Pathway Plans, provides for the development of career and technical pathways for middle and high school students.

SB253, Higher Ed & Workforce Career Pathways, appropriates \$11.5 million to the Higher Education Department for Santa Fe Community College to administer the Sun Path Consortium program from FY20 to FY23.

SB353, Career & Tech Student Organizations, appropriates \$650 thousand to Regional Education Cooperative 6 to support middle school, high school, and postsecondary students in six state-chartered intra- and co-curricular career and technical student organizations, and is identical to HB299.

## **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

- LESC Files
- New Mexico Independent Community Colleges (NMICC)

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