

LFC Requester:**Liu**

**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION*Check all that apply:*

Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date Prepared: 01/30/24**Bill No:** [SB211](#)**Agency Name
and Code****Sponsor:** Padilla**Number:** PED - 924**Short** SCIENCE EDUCATION**Person Writing** Denise Terrazas**Title:** PROMOTION FUND**Phone:** (505) 470-5303 **Email:** denise.terrazas@ped.nm.gov**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT****APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
None	\$1,000.00	Recurring	GFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25	FY26		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	NFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: The FY25 House Appropriations and Finance Committee Substitute for House Bills 2 and 3 (HB2/HAFCS) includes \$125.2 thousand for science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) initiatives at Northern New Mexico College, \$10 million for scholarships to students enrolled in a master's or doctoral program in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) program, and \$20 million in the state equalization guarantee (SEG) for education innovations. The \$20 million may be flexibly used by school districts and charter schools for community schools, career technical education programs, and literacy programs, among other potential uses.

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 211 (SB211) would create the Science Education Promotion Fund for state educational institutions, as enumerated in Article XII, Section 11 of the Constitution of New Mexico, and public elementary, middle, junior high, and high schools to develop and carry out strategic five-year plans related to promoting educational programming and degree offerings related to aerospace, bioscience, cybersecurity, renewable energy, intelligent manufacturing, and agriculture.

The bill does not provide an effective date. Laws go into effect 90 days after the adjournment of the Legislature enacting them, unless a later date is specified. If enacted, this bill would become effective May 15, 2024.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill would appropriate \$1 million from the General Fund to the Science Education Promotion Fund for expenditure in FY25 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out the purposes of the Science Education Promotion Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

The Executive Budget Recommendation for FY25 includes approximately \$3.1 million to the Public Education Department for science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) initiatives.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill would require the Economic Development Department (EDD) to administer the fund to make grants to public institutions to develop and carry out a strategic plan.

[Section 22-15E-3 NMSA 1978](#) of the Mathematics and Science Education Act requires the Public Education Department (PED) to work with the Math and Science Advisory Council to develop a statewide strategic plan for mathematics and science education in the public schools and coordinate those activities with other state agencies and relevant partners.

It should be noted that [Section 22-2-2\(L\) NMSA 1978](#) gives the Secretary of Education authority to approve or disapprove all rules promulgated by an association or organization attempting to regulate a public school activity and invalidate any rule in conflict with any rule promulgated by the Department.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

By providing public institutions with additional grant funding related science education, SB211 may improve students' academic performance.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to: [HB39, Yazzie Lawsuit Educational Funding](#), which would make certain appropriations to institutions of higher education, and tribal colleges comply with the ruling in Martinez and Yazzie v. The State of New Mexico.

Relates to: [HB134, Tribal Education Trust Fund](#), which would create the Tribal Education Trust Fund to increase funding to New Mexico Tribes for the purpose of complying the with Indian Education Act.

Relates to: [HB136, Preservice Computer Science Education Program](#), which would make an appropriation to public, post-secondary institutions to develop a preservice teacher computer science education program.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

Given the Secretary of Education's expertise with and authority over matters affecting public education, the sponsor may wish to consider amending the bill to include a partnership between EDD and PED, allowing EDD to focus on administration of the fund while allowing PED to be responsible for evaluating grant applications from public schools for compliance with the current statewide mathematics and science education strategic plan and state academic content standards.