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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR <u>Sens. Nava and Charley/Rep. Lente</u>	LAST UPDATED _____
	ORIGINAL DATE <u>2/25/2025</u>
	BILL <u>Senate Joint</u>
SHORT TITLE <u>Higher Ed Bilingual Ed Faculties & Degree</u>	NUMBER <u>Memorial 3</u>
	ANALYST <u>Jorgensen</u>

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact			

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Joint Memorial 3

Senate Joint Memorial 3 (SJM3) requests the Higher Education Department (HED) work with the University of New Mexico, Western New Mexico University, New Mexico Highlands University, and New Mexico State University to develop a joint bachelor’s degree in elementary bilingual multicultural education and provide funds to increase bilingual faculty lines to support the program.

Additionally, SJM3 requests HED assess the need for scholarships for those pursuing a doctoral, terminal, or teaching degree in bilingual multicultural education.

Finally, SJM3 requests PED to “fully address, fund and support the linguistic rights of New Mexico’s bilingual multicultural students” as provided by the constitution, statute, and court rulings.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns if enacted, or June 20, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SJM3 requests higher education institutions to create a bachelor's degree program in bilingual multicultural education and requests HED to study the need for scholarships for students in the program. Because there is no appropriation to support the studies or new programs, the costs would have to be absorbed in the current operating budget unless another source of funding is identified.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The House version of the General Appropriation Act includes \$500 for the Public Education Department “for purposes pursuant to the Bilingual Multicultural Education Act.”

CJ/hg/sgs