



LFC Requester: Liu

**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
BILL ANALYSIS  
2026 REGULAR SESSION**

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Check all that apply:

Original  Amendment   
Correction  Substitute

Date Prepared: February 3 2026

Bill No: HM30

Committee Referrals: HEC

Sponsor: Garratt / Romero / Baca /  
Chatfield

Agency Name and Code: PED - 924

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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY27	FY28		
None	None	N/A	NFA

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY27	FY28	FY29		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY27	FY28	FY29	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	None	None	None	None	N/A	NFA

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: None as of 2/5/26.

## **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: House Memorial 30 (HM30) requests that the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) study public education governance and long-term educational planning in New Mexico.

The memorial directs LESC to convene a work group during the 2026 interim to evaluate the state's existing governance structures and review statutory roles and responsibilities across education agencies. HM30 directs the LESC to make recommendations on the purpose, feasibility, and composition of a potential statewide education commission. HM30 also requests that LESC examine how long-term planning could support a response to the *Martinez-Yazzie v. State of New Mexico* ruling.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

This memorial does not contain an appropriation.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

House Memorial 30 (HM30) requests that LESC:

- Convene a workgroup focused on public education governance and long-term educational planning during the 2026 interim, which would evaluate options for establishing a statewide education commission.
- Review New Mexico statutes governing public education systems to clarify the roles and authority of agencies across levels of governance, identifying strategies to strengthen system capacity, coordination, and coherence across early childhood, K–12, and higher education systems.
- Examine how long-term governance and planning structures could support effective response to the *Martinez-Yazzie v. State of New Mexico* ruling.
- Work in coordination with the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), the Public Education Department (PED), the Early Childhood Education and Care Department, the Higher Education Department, the Indian Affairs Department, the Children's Cabinet, public school educators, Indian Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos, and community, research, and nonprofit organizations with expertise in education systems design or long-term planning.
- Publish a report of findings and recommendations by November 30, 2026.

In recent years, numerous states have proposed or created legislatively authorized commissions to develop plans and programs that link education to economic and civic prosperity:

<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Maryland</b>	Maryland <a href="#">created</a> the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (2017-2019), comprised of education advocates, teachers, legislators, and experts. They produced the <a href="#">Blueprint for Maryland's Future</a> to address education funding and needed approaches to better prepare students for success in the modern workforce. The Blueprint established the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) to ensure successful implementation of the plan.

State	Description
<b>Michigan</b>	In 2025, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) commissioned independent researchers and staff at University of Michigan’s Youth Policy Lab, Education Policy Initiative, and Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy to study the distribution of authority across state entities and between state and local actors, school district consolidation, school choice and education finance. A final <a href="#">report</a> summarizes their research findings and policy recommendations.
<b>Montana</b>	Montana’s School Funding Interim Commission was created in 2025 to compare Montana’s education policies with the policies of high-performing international and domestic educational systems and develop <a href="#">recommendations to adapt such policies for Montana’s public education system</a> . In its second phase, the commission will study the formula and funding of Montana’s education system.
<b>Nevada</b>	Nevada’s <a href="#">Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education</a> was created in 2023 and spent 18 months studying high-performing education systems, documenting its findings and recommendations for Nevada’s education system in a <a href="#">final report</a> released in June, 2025.
<b>Oregon</b>	Since <a href="#">2001</a> , Oregon’s Quality Education Commission has convened to create a <a href="#">biennial report</a> on its research into best education practices. The commission updates the state’s education funding model based on updated data and education goals.
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	A bipartisan group of legislators in Pennsylvania have <a href="#">proposed creating</a> a bicameral, 18-month-long <a href="#">2030 Commission on Education and Economic Competitiveness</a> to establish a shared, bipartisan, statewide framework to align the state’s education system with long-term economic competitiveness. The commission would assess current and future workforce needs, identify policy and regulatory changes needed to support high-performing local education systems, and develop data infrastructure to measure progress toward global economic competitiveness.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

HM30 requests that LESC works with PED in its study of educational governance, but the nature of the collaboration is not detailed. PED would likely need to dedicate staff time to participating in the work group.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Relates to:

- [HM2](#), Study Screen Use in Elementary Classrooms, requests the LESC study the use of screen time for instruction and assessment in elementary classrooms, and requests PED

collaborate with stakeholders to create developmentally appropriate guidelines for daily screen use in elementary classrooms.

- [HM43](#), Study Framework for Public School Rankings, requests the LESC and PED conduct a study on the methodologies to rank public school performance and growth.
- [HM44](#), Study Family Engagement Practices, requests the LESC conducts a study on the current state of family engagement practices, models, and policies in New Mexico and recommend strategies for improvement.

#### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None.

#### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None.

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

None.

#### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

None.

#### **AMENDMENTS**

None.