

LFC Requester:	Sunny Liu
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov
(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 1/24/2026 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SB 84 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Sen. Padilla **Agency Name and Code:** Indian Affairs Department
Short Title: School Water Management Program **Number:** 60900
Person Writing: Amanda Nezzie
Phone: 5056993354 **Email:** amanda.nezzie@iad.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE
BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: This bill establishes a two-year pilot program called the "high school water management and conservation program" to offer a one-credit elective course focused on preparing students for careers in water management and conservation. The Public Education Department (PED) is tasked with administering this program, developing a curriculum in collaboration with other state departments and tribal governments, selecting three high schools from different types of counties to participate, and setting up requirements for schools to report on student and program performance. PED will also provide annual reports to the legislature and the governor on the program's effectiveness and can use up to four percent of the appropriated funds for educator training and administrative costs. Additionally, the bill appropriates \$5,000,000 from the general fund to PED for curriculum development and operational expenses for this program over fiscal years 2027 and 2028, with any remaining funds reverting to the general fund at the end of fiscal year 2028.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact to IAD.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill calls for “collaboration with the higher education department, the department of health, the state engineer and the Indian nations, tribes and pueblos” to develop a curriculum for the program. IAD supports including tribal governments in matters that directly impact Nations, Pueblos and Tribes.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS