



LFC Requester: Jorgensen

**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: SB199

Committee Referrals: SEC/SFC

**Agency Name and Code:** PED - 924

Sponsor: Campos

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Short Title: FUND DISBURSEMENTS  
FOR EDUCATIONAL RADIO

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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: The [House Appropriations and Finance Committee Substitute for House Bill 2](#) includes \$2.75 million to the Department of Finance and Administration for educational television and public radio for expenditure in FY27 and FY28, and \$429,000 to the Indian Affairs Department for public television and radio over the same period. It also appropriates \$9,305,100 to the University of New Mexico, \$4,924,600 to New Mexico State University, and \$2,670,300 to Eastern New Mexico University for educational television.

## **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: Senate Bill 199 (SB199) would amend the [educational television equipment replacement fund](#) section of the [General Provisions Relating to State Educational Institutions](#) to expand allowable uses for the fund to include replacement of equipment for educational radio stations and to extend eligibility to stations operated by public schools. Additionally, the bill updates existing eligibility language to specify that the fund applies to stations operated by state institutions of higher education and public schools.

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 20, 2026.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

SB199 does not contain an appropriation.

Expanding the Educational Television Equipment Replacement Fund to include educational radio may support the modernization of broadcast infrastructure and improve the reliability and reach of educational media in New Mexico. However, allowing both television and radio entities to access the same pool of funds may increase demand and could reduce allocations absent additional appropriations.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Under current law, the Educational Television Equipment Replacement Fund supports replacement of equipment for educational television stations operated by institutions of higher education. SB199 would expand allowable uses of the fund to include educational radio stations, extend eligibility to stations operated by public schools, and update statutory language to specify that eligible higher education entities are state institutions of higher education.

By adding radio, the bill recognizes an additional platform for delivering educational and informational content, particularly in rural and underserved areas where radio may be more accessible than television or broadband services. It is unclear how many stations public schools operate.

Public radio is a widely accessible platform for educational and cultural content, with more than one in three Americans (36 percent) listening at least once a week, according to [a 2025 survey](#) from Harris Poll. This broad reach makes public radio a consistent source of audio-based programming that can supplement learning outside the classroom, particularly for children and families who may have limited access to other educational resources.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None for the Public Education Department (PED), school districts, or schools.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Relates to [Senate Bill 200](#), which would make an appropriation to the PED for the KANW radio station.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

By allowing the Educational Television Equipment Replacement Fund to support educational radio stations operated by state institutions of higher education or public schools, SB199 may help modernize and maintain broadcast infrastructure that supports continued delivery of instructional and informational programming. As such, the bill may promote more equitable access for parents and families to educational and cultural content, especially in underserved and rural communities.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

None.

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

None.

## **AMENDMENTS**

None.