



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 2 2026

Bill No: SB200

Committee Referrals: SEC/SFC

Agency Name and Code: PED - 924

Sponsor: Campos

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Short KANW EDUCATIONAL

PED Policy Senior Manager: denise terrazas

Title: RADIO STATION

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY27	FY28		
\$500.0	None	Nonrecurring	GRO

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
Total	None	None	None	None	N/A	NFA

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

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 200 (SB200) would designate funds to the KANW educational radio station to purchase equipment and add resources for reporters to cover rural New Mexico news.

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

SB200 would appropriate \$500,000 from the Government Results and Opportunity (GRO) Program Fund to the Public Education Department for expenditure in FY27 for the KANW educational radio station to purchase equipment and add resources for reporters to cover rural New Mexico news. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 would revert to the GRO Program Fund.

The rationale for designating the GRO Program Fund as the source of the appropriation, rather than the General Fund, is not evident.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

[KANW](#), a non-profit, non-commercial public radio station owned and operated by Albuquerque Public Schools (APS), was the first FM station licensed in New Mexico. Established in 1949 to provide instructional programming for APS students, the station initially operated during school hours and later expanded its reach and mission. KANW operates multiple HD channels, repeater stations, and translators across New Mexico, extending its programming to several rural communities statewide.

Over time, KANW has broadened its programming to include news, cultural content, and New Mexico Music, a long running program highlighting music by New Mexico artists. The station became a full National Public Radio member in 1999 and continues to provide a mix of educational, cultural, and public interest programming.

SB200 would support KANW in acquiring equipment and strengthening resources for reporters to cover rural New Mexico news. According to [a 2022 report](#) from the Alliance of Rural Public Media, public radio plays an increasingly critical role for Americans living in rural communities, as stations operate as primary sources of daily local news and emergency information, particularly in areas experiencing the loss of other local media outlets.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Public radio is a widely accessible platform for educational and cultural content, with more than one in three Americans (36 percent) listening to public radio programming at least once a week, according to [a 2025 survey](#) from the 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.

As such, SB200 may support more equitable access to educational and cultural content by leveraging a platform that reaches families in underserved and rural communities.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to [Senate Bill 199](#), Fund Disbursements for Educational Radio, which would allow disbursements from the Education Television Equipment Replacement Fund to be made for educational radio.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None.