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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Williams, Stapleton	DATE TYPED:	03/03/03	HB	305
SHORT TITLE: Next-Step Plans for High School Students				SB	

ANALYST: Se

Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04 *		
	N/A		Indeterminate		

*See Fiscal Impact Summary

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 305 amends the Public School Code, Subsection E of Section 22-2-8.4 NMSA 1978, Graduation Requirements.

Significant Issues

The bill would require all students to complete and file a final next-step plan as a condition for receiving a high school diploma. Currently, all students entering high school are required to prepare a four-year plan for grades 9-12. In these plans, students indicate an interest in postsecond-ary education, employment, military service or other potential careers.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to SDE, school districts will be required to expend funds to develop the infrastructures for meeting the final next-step plan requirement for all students. This will include costs associated with counseling and guidance, data collection, reporting, monitoring and implementation of student plans.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The department indicates that an increase in workload would be required by school counselors and other school officials.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Several new districts are implementing Career Pathways/Career Academies that provide a focused program of study for individual students to prepare for continuing postsecondary education or for receiving certification in their chosen pathway.

RMS/yr