

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: SB 141

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: Las Cruces Youth Dance Programs

Sponsor(s): Senator Mary Jane Garcia and Others

Analyst: James Ball

Date: January 20, 2008

Bill Summary:

SB 141 makes an appropriation to support youth dance programs in partnership with school districts in the Las Cruces area to encourage character-building arts education.

Fiscal Impact:

\$15,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) for FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

Issues:

According to CYFD, evidence suggests that youth who are involved in activities such as sports, music, and drama help build a sense of self-worth and self-respect. They consistently show lower rates of substance use and gang involvement. They may also demonstrate healthier functioning on such indicators as academic achievement, psychological adjustment, and improved quality and quantity of interactions with their parents.

Related Bills:

SB 34 *New Mexico School for the Arts Act*

HB 53 *Santa Fe Performing Arts School Programs*