

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: SB 284

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: Luna College High School Preparatory Program

Sponsor(s): Senator Pete Campos

Analyst: Pamela Herman

Date: January 25, 2008

Bill Summary:

SB 284 appropriates funds to the Higher Education Department (HED) for the Luna Community College to fund the “Crossroads Academy” program that offers a summer developmental and remedial college preparatory program to high school students.

Fiscal Impact:

\$85,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to HED for expenditure in FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

In 2007, the Junior *General Appropriation Act* contained \$20,000 for Luna Community College for the Youth College Program, including participation fees, transportation, student learning kits, instructional supplies, and post-program evaluation.

Issues:

According to HED:

- SB 284 is a response to the high percentage of high school students who need remedial coursework when they enter Luna Community College.
- Luna states that a pilot project conducted last summer demonstrated that students improved basic skills through summer coursework and showed significant increases in college placement scores compared to students who did not participate in the summer program.
- Program success is attributed to the college instructional environment experienced by high school sophomores in the Crossroads Program.
- Students are transported to Luna to undertake rigorous eight-week courses with tutorial assistance, studying in the same classes as regular college students.

The Crossroads Academy is one of a variety of efforts being made by colleges to bridge the gap between high school and college to help students prepare better for postsecondary success as part of the New Mexico’s P-20 initiative.

Related Bills:

SB 285 *Luna College Youth College Program*
SB 286 *High School Science & Math College Prep*
HB 78 *Luna College Science & Math Instruction*