

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: SB 88

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: NMSU Early Childhood Research

Sponsor(s): Senators Cynthia Nava and Mary Kay Papen

Analyst: James Ball

Date: January 20, 2008

Bill Summary:

SB 88 makes an appropriation to pay for the Southwest Institute for Early Childhood Research and Development.

Fiscal Impact:

\$271,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Regents at New Mexico State University (NMSU) for FY 09. The bill contains a reversion clause.

Issues:

According to NMSU, this appropriation is intended to support the Southwest Institute for Early Childhood Studies. There is no institute for early childhood research and development at NMSU. According to NMSU funds will be used to:

- disseminate a research-based electronic journal with a focus on cultural and linguistic diversity in early childhood;
- support the J. Paul Taylor Fall Symposium with presentations on outstanding MA and PhD Research Projects in early childhood;
- support the Spring Early Literacy Symposium for Practicing Teachers in Classrooms Serving Children 0 to 5 with a nationally recognized keynote speaker;
- publish symposium proceedings;
- develop an early literacy center for teachers and families;
- collect and disseminate archived materials for support of families and early childhood professionals; and
- identify leaders to serve in national advisory positions, professional meetings, and serve as consultants to teachers, child-care organizations and community programs.

According to the Legislative Finance Committee, this request was submitted by NMSU to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review, but is not included in the department's funding recommendation for FY 09.

Related Bills:

SB 79 *WNMU Early Childhood Program*
HB 75 *NMSU Early Childhood Program*