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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/2008

SPONSOR Sanchez, M. LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Valencia School suspension Alternatives SB 265

ANALYST Aguilar

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Related to appropriations contained in the General Appropriations Act for truancy and dropout prevention.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 265 appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to Public Education Department for the purpose of implementing a pilot program in Valencia County that will provide an alternative to out-of-school suspensions.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The goals of dropout and truancy prevention programs are to decrease truancy and dropout rates and increase student attendance. In order for students to achieve they must first be present. The

underlying issues for dropout and truancy are oftentimes associated with social, family and health barriers that prevent students from achieving and dropout and truancy prevention programs help to provide support to students, schools and families to increase academic success and close the achievement gap for all students.

According to the PED 2006-2007 Unexcused Absence and Habitual Truant Report, the two school districts in Valencia County, Belen and Los Lunas have reported a combined Habitual truant rate of 26.38%.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

It appears the department should be able to implement the provisions of this bill within existing operational appropriation.

PA/nt