

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SJM 15

49th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2010

Tracking Number: .180318.1

Short Title: Study & Replicate Nursing Education Programs

Sponsor(s): Senator Dede Feldman

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 12, 2010

Bill Summary:

Among its provisions, SJM 15 requests the Public Education Department (PED) to:

- study existing New Mexico programs that prepare high school students to become certified nursing assistants or licensed practical nurses (LPN) and develop guidelines to replicate such programs statewide;
- cooperate with the Division of Health Improvement of the Department of Health to develop the guidelines to ensure alignment with federal and state requirements for training, certification, and licensing of nursing assistants and LPNs; and
- report to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee by November 2010 on progress toward development of the guidelines and efforts to encourage implementation of similar programs in New Mexico high schools.

Fiscal Impact:

Legislative memorials do not contain appropriations.

Fiscal Issues:

According to the PED analysis of SJM15, the scope of the study could have an impact on existing resources, especially due to the fact that the Career-Technical and Workforce Education Bureau is currently operating with a 40 percent vacancy rate.

In general, the implications of memorials with requests for substantial studies and early reporting requirements on state agencies operating under budget cuts, hiring freezes, and employee furloughs can be significant.

Related Bills:

HJM 13 *Track Nursing Education Funding*