

LFC Requester:

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**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:

Original Amendment X
Correction Substitute

Date Prepared: 02/05/24
Bill No: SB260/aSIRC

Sponsor: Muñoz/Pinto
Short ZUNI & NAVAJO NATION
Title: STUDENTS

Agency Name
and Code
Number: PED - 924
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
None	\$5,000.00	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY24	FY25		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	NFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: [House Bill 2](#) contains approximately \$4.95 billion in appropriations for public education.

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of SIRC Amendment: The Senate Indian, Rural, and Cultural Affairs Committee amendment to SB260 (SB260/aSIRC) modifies the language of the original bill by adding the words “and Cibola County” after “McKinley County” on page two, line one.

Synopsis: Senate Bill 260 (SB260) would appropriate \$1 million dollars to the Zuni Public School District and \$4 million dollars to the Central Consolidated School District and Gallup-McKinley County School District.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB260/aSIRC appropriates \$5 million dollars from the General Fund to three school districts in Northwest New Mexico. The bill does not require any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year to be reverted to the general fund.

SB260/aSIRC does not identify whether this funding affects appropriations already received from the Indian Education Division (IED) of the Public Education Department.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB260/aSIRC does not specify how the \$4 million dollar appropriation would be divided between the Central Consolidated School District and the Gallup-McKinley County School District or how the appropriated funds would be spent in any of the districts mentioned in the bill.

SB260/aSIRC does not specify whether the appropriation is only to support Native American students. Gallup-McKinley County School District received \$2,404,271.52 in FY24 from the IED to meet the provisions of the Indian Education Act (IEA) and to support 520 Native American Culture and Language (NALC) certified staff salaries – of the \$2M, \$55,499.52 was carried over or redistributed from FY23. Zuni Public Schools received \$702,016.64 in FY24 from the IED to meet the provisions of the IEA and to support 520 NALC-certified staff salaries - of the total amount, \$15,886.64 was carried over or redistributed from FY23. Central Consolidated School District received \$1,125,684.54 in FY24 from the IED to meet the provisions of the IEA and to support 520 NALC-certified staff salaries – of the total \$1M, \$12,850.54 was carried over or redistributed from FY23.

SB260/aSIRC would provide additional funding to the following school districts that have over \$18 million in operational cash balances:

School District	Approximate Operational Cash Balance
Zuni Public School District	\$18.3 million
Central Consolidated School District	\$56.2 million
Gallup-McKinley County School District	\$93.2 million

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to: [HB134, Tribal Education Trust Fund](#), which appropriates \$100 million to create a “tribal education trust fund” that would make annual distributions to each New Mexico nation, tribe or pueblo to implement the purposes of the Indian Education Act.

Relates to: [HB135, Indian Education Fund Distributions](#), which amends the Indian Education Act to provide for automatic monthly distributions to New Mexico tribes from the Indian Education Fund.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The SIRC amendment to SB260 would change the language of the bill from reading, “Gallup-McKinley County school district in McKinley County” to, “Gallup-McKinley County school district in McKinley County and Cibola County”. While there may be students from Cibola County attending schools in the Gallup-McKinley County school district, it does not appear that there is overlap between the boundaries of the Gallup-McKinley school district and Grants-Cibola County school districts.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None.