

LFC Requester:	Sunny Liu, LFC
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2018 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Check all that apply: **Date** 01/26/18
Original **Amendment** **Bill No:** SM8
Correction **Substitute**

Sponsor: Senator Jeff Steinborn **Agency Code:** 924
Short Title: STUDY SCHOOL SUICIDES & GUN VIOLENCE **Person Writing:** Debbie M. Rael
Phone: 827-1589 **Email:** Debbie.montoya@state.

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY18	FY19		
NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY18	FY19	FY20		
NFI	NFI	NFI	N/A	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY18	FY19	FY20	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	See Fiscal Implication	See Fiscal Implications	See Fiscal Implications	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: None as of 01/23/18

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: None as of 01/23/18

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

Senate Memorial 8 (SM8) directs the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) and the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) to study and evaluate potential solutions to decrease the rates of suicide by firearms and gun violence in schools by October 1, 2018 and for the report, with findings and conclusions, to be provided to the legislative education study committee (LESC).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

While SM8 is not requesting any appropriation of funding, it is unclear what fiscal implications would occur as the PED would need to designate staff to oversee work in connection to the study, be responsive to any LESC requests in relation to the study, meet with designated members of the LESC for the work associated with the study, and assist in preparing the report.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Presently, the PED's Safe Schools Program provides oversight for the three year review cycle of site-specific safe school plans as required in New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) 6.12.6, School District Wellness Policy, specifically referenced as 6.12.6.8.(7). In addition to providing technical assistance to school districts and state-chartered charter schools on school safety issues, inclusive of suicide and violence prevention, the Safe Schools Program works closely with the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Readiness and Emergency Management in Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center in the provision of quality emergency operation plans, site-specific written suicide awareness/prevention protocol, and site-specific written protocol for an active shooter on a school campus, including recommended protective action(s) among others.

The New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey (YRRS) is a tool to assess the health risk behaviors and resiliency factors of New Mexico high school and middle school students and in collaboration with the PED, the New Mexico Department of Health and the University of New Mexico.

The YRRS data for 2015 (the most recent year for which data is available) shows that suicidal ideation and suicide attempts continue to be prevalent among adolescents in New Mexico. With the exception of a sharp decrease in 2014 suicide attempts, the rate has not changed substantially

since 2009 (2009 = 9.7%; 2015 = 9.4%). Data from the YRRS for 2015 show the following for New Mexico middle school students:

- 65.2% say they have ever carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife or club.
- 21.7% say they have ever seriously thought of killing themselves.
- 14.0% say they have ever made a plan how they would kill themselves.
- 9.9 % say they have ever tried to kill themselves.

The YRRS poses more questions to high school students than middle school students. Data from the YRRS for 2015 show the following for New Mexico high school students:

- 38.4% say they have a gun in their home.
- 48.8 % say they have carried a weapon (gun, knife, or club) in the past 30 days.
- 1.9 % say they have carried a gun one day in the past 30 days;
- 1.2% say they have carried a gun 6 or more days in the past 30 days.
- 1.3% say they have carried a weapon (gun, knife, or club) on school property one day in the past 30 days; 2.1% say they have carried a weapon (gun, knife, or club) on school property 6 or more days in the past 30 days.
- 2.6% say they have not gone to school one day in the past 30 days because they felt unsafe at school; 1.5% say they have not gone to school 2 or 3 days in the past 30 days because they felt unsafe at school; and 1.3% say they have not gone to school 6 or more days in the past 30 days because they felt unsafe at school.
- 16.0% say they seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months.
- 13.6% say they made a plan about how to attempt suicide in the past 12 months.
- 2.5% say they have actually attempted suicide in the past 12 months.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Under the administrative code, PED works with districts and schools to provide training and support in completing school safe school plans. Further data is collected and noted. The provisions of this memorial to study and evaluate solutions to decrease the rates of suicide by firearms and gun violence in schools complements a longstanding effort by PED to best provide information, support and guidance (along with other emergency operations providers) to NM districts and schools.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The PED and Legislative Education Study Committee would be required to dedicate staff to conduct this study and write the report by October 1, 2108. Performance measures to assure the study is implemented and complete would have to be in place to present to the Secretary and LESC. The results of the study would then have to be enacted and further resources (time, money, personnel) would have to be established based on a plan of action.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

There is some overlap with the existing PED Safe Schools Program and data that can be used to narrow in as related to this Study. Existing relationships with other emergency providers would need to be leveraged and adjusted to specifically focus on studying and evaluating potential solution to decrease the rates of suicide by firearms and gun violence in schools.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None as of 01/23/18.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

SM8 may relate to the Governor's focus on Pre-K-12 Public School Support as noted in the Governor's Fiscal Year 2019 Executive Budget Recommendation, Page 2, reading "\$6 million in public school capital outlay (5% of the total distribution) to begin investing in needed security systems in our public schools."

ALTERNATIVES

None as of 01/23/18.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The state YRRS and other national data collection will continue to be utilized to improve school safety conditions. Schools will continue to follow the safe school provisions within NMAC 6.12.6, School District Wellness Policy.

AMENDMENTS

None as of 01/23/18.