

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: HB587 requests a nonrecurring appropriation for fiscal year 2020 to fund civics courses focusing on New Mexico state government, to be taught on a week-long basis, one-time annually, at varying postsecondary institutions throughout New Mexico.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB 587 appropriates \$50.0 for FY20. Recurrence is not addressed, but is assumed.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HB 587 specifies that PED shall be the recipient of the appropriation, but it is unclear how PED would administer the appropriation. The desired outcome of HB587 is unclear.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation is targeted toward high school students but it is unclear whether the target should be further refined into cohorts based upon performance considerations. Determining a target subset of high school students is necessary because the appropriation will be inadequate to provide funding for civics coursework for all high school students..

It is also unclear what performance measures would be required to gain insight into the impact and quality of this appropriation directed toward civics instruction.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

PED would be required to develop criteria for awarding funds to “varying post-secondary institutions in New Mexico.” Administering funds and providing oversight of course content is not addressed.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None noted.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None noted.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None noted.

ALTERNATIVES

One potential goal might be to direct the civics courses toward secondary students who have expressed interest in the CTE career cluster called Government and Public Administration. After completing the summer course, students might be surveyed to determine if the courses influenced their continuation toward civics occupational goals. Alternately, the coursework might be designed to support programming at STEM schools that need enhanced humanities offerings.

A civics curriculum could be incorporated into graduation requirements to significantly increase the reach of introducing civics into the high school curriculum. If the intent of the bill is to promote the value of active citizenship and a sense of obligation to civic duty, this might be a stronger alternative.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

No state funded civics program would exist at New Mexico postsecondary institutions.

AMENDMENTS

None proposed.