

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	See Fiscal Implications	See Fiscal Implications	See Fiscal Implications	Recurring	General Fun and School District Budgets

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: None as of 1/17/19

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: None as of 1/17/19

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

Senate Bill 48 (SB48) enacts the Student Diabetes Management Act to provide diabetes management by students and school personnel. SB48 requires the New Mexico Department of Health (DOH) in consultation with the New Mexico School Nurse’s Association and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) to promulgate rules for the annual training of school employees, including nurses, for the care of students with diabetes. The parent or guardian of each student with diabetes who seeks diabetes care while at school must submit diabetes medical management plan. Students are allowed to manage their own diabetes if the parent approves.

SB48 requires a school nurse or at least one diabetes care personnel be at each school during regular school hours where a student with diabetes is attending and during all school-sponsored activities, on or off campus. Schools are prohibited from restricting a student’s enrollment due to diabetes.

Finally, SB48 requires that governing bodies to submit an annual report to the DOH and to the Public Education Department (PED). Parents or guardians also have a right to bring an administrative complaint to the PED against any school or governing body that fails to adhere to the requirements of the Act.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB48 does not appropriate funding to the DOH, to the PED or to school districts, or charter schools for the implementation of the Act.

The fiscal implications of implementing this training in every school are unclear but should be considered. The requirement of a full-time nurse being at each school during regular hours where a student with a reported diabetes diagnosis is enrolled would need to consider workforce.

While the DOH is responsible for promulgating rule, the PED would need to utilize existing staff to inform school districts and state charter schools of the requirements and to be responsive to any administrative complaints received from a parent or guardian. Collaboration among departments should be noted.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the PED 2016-2017 Annual School Health Services Summary Report, 24.6% of visits to the Student Health Office are chronic disease related. Specifically, the number of public school students with a diabetes diagnosis is 993, representing 14.4% of medically complex procedures performed by school nursing staff. (<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/safe-healthy-schools/school-health-resources/>).

Diabetes care for students in New Mexico schools is currently guided by one or more of the following documents: a student's Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP), Individualized Education Program (IEP), or Section 504 plan. Each of these plans includes student, parent, and health services staff engagement to support the student's diabetes management plan. SB48 ensures the obligations of school districts under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act or a Section 504 plan remain in force. SB48 should also consider IHPs as they are currently designed to support a medical management plan for diabetes.

SB48 specifies that all school nurses and diabetes care personnel receive an annual training and sets forth several criteria for training content. SB48 also proposes that diabetes care personnel be trained within schools to provide care to students with diabetes. The training would include recognition of hypo- and hyperglycemia, understanding of target ranges for blood glucose levels, performing blood glucose and ketone testing, administering glucagon and insulin, recognizing emergency complications related to diabetes, and the interaction of food intake and physical activity on blood glucose levels. SB48, page 4, lines 15-16, states "A governing body shall not require the diabetes care personnel be health care practitioners." However, as SB48 requires the training of a minimum of two school employees at each school attended by a student with diabetes. In lieu of the availability of a full-time nurse, SB48 allows for the provision of the second trained employee to serve as a diabetes care professional. This means, in instances where a full-time nurse is not available, that the diabetes care personnel may not necessarily have any type of health care background and still be allowed to provide diabetes care to students. The National Institute of Health recommends a team of "health care professionals" to help in diabetes self-care (<https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/diabetes/overview/managing-diabetes>). Due to the complexity of this chronic condition, the bill should consider implications when non-health care professionals to provide comprehensive care to students with diabetes.

For instance, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) identifies diabetes medications, such as insulin and oral hypoglycemic agents, as "High-Alert" medications. This means that these medications "bear a heightened risk of causing significant patient harm when they are used in error." Many hospitals have a policy that requires insulin dosing to be double-checked by two healthcare professionals. The Joint Commission recommends establishing a system where one nurse prepares the dose of insulin and another reviews it (http://www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/SEA_11.pdf). For this reason, careful consideration should be given to who is allowed to administer these types of medication.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

SB48 has some short and long-term administrative implications for the PED. Most importantly, the PED is tasked with addressing any administrative complaint brought by a parent or guardian against any school or governing body that fails to meet the obligations as defined in the Act. This would require existing staff to engage in the administrative complaint process and may require existing staff to modify the PED New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) rule regarding complaint procedures.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None as of 1/17/2019

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None as of 1/17/2019

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

SB48 requires the DOH to promulgate a rule for the Student Diabetes Management Act. As the Act includes allowing a parent or guardian to bring an administrative complaint to the PED for any school not in compliance with the Act, the DOH would be promulgating a rule inclusive of an administrative complaint process that would be overseen by the PED. This would necessitate significant collaboration between the PED and the DOH in those instances where administrative complaints are brought to the PED. This may also include the PED needing to revise existing rules and/or processes regarding parental or guardian complaints as reflected in *NMAC 6.10.3, Complaint Procedure*.

SB48 states a governing body shall not restrict a student who has diabetes from attending any school on the basis that the student has diabetes. Sponsorship might note that this is established in federal regulations. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states, “Public schools and schools that receive federal funding cannot treat children with diabetes differently by the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.”

(<https://elbiruniblogspotcom.blogspot.com/2015/08/managing-diabetes-at-school-features-cdc.html>)

ALTERNATIVES

None as of 1/17/2019

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If SB48 is not enacted, school districts and charter schools will continue to address diabetes care as established through local district or charter school protocol and processes.

AMENDMENTS

None as of 1/17/2019