

LFC Requester:	Mark Valenzuela
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2019 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 2/6/19
Original **Amendment** **Bill No:** HB20
Correction **Substitute**

Sponsor: Joy Garratt **Agency Code:** 924
Short GROW YOUR OWN **Person Writing** Daniel Manzano
Title: TEACHERS ACT **Phone:** 505-670-3820 **Email** Daniel.Manzano@state.nm.us

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20	FY21		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

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

(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: House Bill 20 (HB20) will appropriate funds to qualified New Mexico educational assistants to provide loans to them to attend an undergraduate teacher preparation program at a regionally accredited public post-secondary educational institution in New Mexico.

HB20 delineates the requirements that an educational assistant will have to meet to receive the loan. In order for an educational assistant to receive funds the assistant must meet the following requirements:

1. be a resident of New Mexico;
2. worked as an educational assistant in New Mexico for 2 years;
3. be in good standing with the school district; and
4. be enrolled in or accepted in a regionally accredited undergraduate teacher preparation program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB20 would appropriate two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) from the general fund.

HB20 will require an appropriation of funds to cover the loan payment. Governor Lujan-Grisham's budget includes Teacher Training Funds to increase the number of students entering the teacher pipeline.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

1. HB20 does not define "good standing." The bill states that an educational assistant must be in good standing. This needs to be fleshed out so that districts will fairly and consistently determine if assistants are eligible for the loan.
2. HB20 calls for the department to "make a full and careful investigation of the ability and qualifications of each applicant to become a recipient of the loan" and shall require "references from the educational assistant's school principal and superintendent." The bill does not specify a timeframe to accomplish this for each applicant.
3. The loan recipient must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0. However, how that GPA will be monitored is not defined in the bill.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Department that administers this program will need clear processes and procedures to implement as well as staff members to complete the work.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Teacher pipeline is a decades-old concern and interest to New Mexico districts. Proactive districts around the country have looked at the paraprofessionals within their districts as likely candidates to support through teacher certification programs.

Over the past few years, some of New Mexico school districts have had trouble filling vacancies before the school year begins. While teacher shortages are not unique to New Mexico, declining enrollment in educator preparation programs has forced New Mexico school districts to compete with other states to both recruit new teachers and retain experienced teachers.

Educational assistants have a clear understanding of the job duties and expectation of teachers. During their career as assistants they are able to observe varied teaching styles and pupil abilities across a wide range of different subject areas. This experience within classrooms will help educational assistants as they move into the role of a classroom teacher.

Research (Trujillo, Jamison, & Salcedo, 2017) clearly demonstrates that New Mexico is dealing with teacher shortages. In 2017 New Mexico had 476 Teacher Vacancies in 2017 and this was 7% increase from prior year. In 2018, the number of teacher vacancies rose to 1173 openings (Trujillo, 2018).

Trujillo, K., Jamison, S., & Salcedo, Y. (2017, November). 2017 New Mexico educator vacancy report.

Trujillo, K. (2018, October). 2018 New Mexico educator vacancy report.

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Qualifying educational assistants would not be able to apply for this loan to become a teacher.

AMENDMENTS