

LFC Requester:	Becerra
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2021 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:
Original **Amendment** _____
Correction _____ **Substitute** _____

Date 2/12/2021
Bill No: SB272

Sponsor: Harold Pope, Jr.
Short Title: MILITARY FAMILY EARLY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Agency Name and Code PED-924
Number: _____
Person Writing John Sena
Phone: 505-570-7816 **Email** John.Sena@state.nm.us

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY21	FY22		
NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY21	FY22	FY23		
NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	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: Senate Bill 272 (SB272) would amend the Public School Code 22-1-4 NMSA 1978 to prioritize enrollment for students identified as a child in a military family who will be attending public school in the school district during the upcoming school year. Additionally, SB272 would allow military families that will be relocating to a military installation in New Mexico to enroll their children in public school prior to their actual physical presence in the school district. Moreover, a parent may submit the student's name for any lottery-selected charter school, magnet school, or other public school program for which the student qualifies. SB272 would also require school districts or charter schools to accept electronic application for enrollment, including enrollment in a specific school or program with the school district or charter school.

SB272 would further require a school district or charter school to provide the applicant with materials regarding academic courses, electives, sports and other relevant information regarding the public school in which the student wants to be enrolled. SB272 would also require a public school to preregister a student in anticipation of the student's enrollment, granted that a student's parent provides proof of residence in the school district within 10 days after published arrival date provide on an official military document and may use any of the following addresses related to the family's military move:

- a temporary on-base billeting facility;
- off-base military housing; or
- a purchased or leased residence.

Lastly, SB272 removes references to the Compulsory School Attendance Law and aligns it with the current Attendance for Success Act, and removes language related to the previously repealed A-B-C-D-F Schools Rating Act.

Requirements outlined in SB272 would apply to the 2021-2022 school year and thereafter.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

This bill does not contain an appropriation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

During the 2020-2021 school year, there were 2,600 students from active duty military families,

425 students from families in the National Guard, and 335 students in families with someone in military reserve enrolled in New Mexico public schools. The state, in 2010, became part of the [The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children](#), an agreement among states to alleviate many of the school transition problems military families encounter. States agree to address specific school transition issues in a consistent way and minimize school disruptions for military children transferring from one state school system to another. It is up to the states to work together to resolve specific transition issues for individual students. The regulations and expectations of the Compact also apply to students transferring to, from, or between Department of Defense Education Activity schools. As of August 2014, all 50 states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation to become members of the Compact, which consists of general policies in four key areas: eligibility, enrollment, placement and graduation.

It is estimated that the average military family moves [three times more often than the average non-military family](#). These frequent moves can cause children to miss extracurricular activities and face challenges in meeting graduation requirements.

SB272 goes further than the provisions of the Interstate Compact by giving students from military families enrollment preference, allowing enrollment prior to the student's physical presence in the school district, allowing electronic enrollment, requiring school districts to provide information about the district, and allowing pre-registration.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Some school districts may need to implement new structures or procedures or create new systems in order to comply with the provisions of SB272.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The sponsor may consider adding language that allows a student to attend courses, upon enrollment, remotely. Additionally, the sponsor may consider amending the 10-day proof of residency period to 45 days, as the 10-day period may not allow families quartered in a temporary lodging facility (TLF) to transition into a permanent residence, within the desired school district.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None as of 2/12/2021.