LFC Requester: Sanchez

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:OriginalXAmendmentCorrectionSubstitute

PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BILL ANALYSIS 2025 REGULAR SESSION

Date Prepared:	01/22 /25
Bill No:	<u>HB48</u>

	Agency Name and Code: PED - 924				D - 924
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropr	iation	Recurring	Fund Affected	
FY26	FY27	or Nonrecurring		
None	None	N/A	Law Enforcement Protection Fund	

<u>REVENUE</u> (dollars in thousands)

	Recurring or	Fund		
FY26	FY27	FY28	Nonrecurring	Affected
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	NFA

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: House Bill 141, the current version of the General Appropriation Act, includes an appropriation of \$2 million from the law enforcement protection fund (LEPF) to the Dues and Membership Fees/Special Appropriations Program of the Department of Finance and Administration.

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

<u>Synopsis</u>: House Bill 48 (HB48) would amend the Law Enforcement Protection Act by adding Western New Mexico University, branch campuses of educational institutions enumerated in Article 12, Section 11 of the New Mexico Constitution, and state-supported community colleges, to the roster of institutions eligible to receive funding for faculty salaries and benefits, instructional materials, and related course expenses.

The bill has an effective date of July 01, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Western New Mexico University and state-supported community colleges that offer law enforcement training certified by the academy would be eligible to receive \$100,000 from the law enforcement protection fund.

The law enforcement protection fund currently receives funds from taxes and fees on insurance and makes distributions per statute. These distributions include per-officer distribution to local law enforcement, which includes school district police, and per-officer distribution to local law enforcement for school resource officer training. The proposed distributions to higher education institutions from the fund may deplete the available balance in the fund, potentially leaving less funding available for school district police and school resource officer training. Further, Section 29-13-4 NMSA 1978 of the Law Enforcement Protection Fund Act requires that if the balance in the LEPF is insufficient to permit the allocations to tribal, municipal, school district and university police and county sheriff's departments, the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration shall reduce those allocations to the maximum permitted by available funds.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

There are three post-secondary institutions with certified satellite academies – Central New Mexico Community College, New Mexico Junior College, and Western New Mexico University. These institutions would be eligible to receive funds from the Law Enforcement Protection Fund.

The bill also permits funds be paid to any community college with a law enforcement program certified by the New Mexico law enforcement academy. The bill would make 16 additional higher education institutions eligible to receive funding if they have or should they begin a certified law enforcement program.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The amendment proposed to <u>Section 29.13.4 C-7 NMSA 1978</u> is unclear as to if each institution is eligible to receive \$100,000 or if the institutions are eligible to share a portion of a \$100,000 total amount.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

If the sponsors want to entitle each institution to an amount of \$100,000 the sponsors may consider inserting the work "Each" between the words "Shall be" in the proposed amendment to <u>Section 29.13.4 C-7 NMSA 1978</u> such that the amendment reads, "Shall each be entitled to."