

# Luna @ the Legislature



**Feb. 5, 2021**

The 55th Legislature's regular session began on Jan. 19 and will end at noon March 20. Deadline for introduction of legislation is Feb. 18. Due to COVID-19 precautions, access to the Roundhouse is limited this session while both chambers are employing both teleconferencing and social distancing to conduct business.

Luna @ The Legislature, an initiative of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations, provides a weekly update on the session to inform the campus community.

Legislation of particular interest to Luna Community College, filed as of publication deadline:

**House Bill 2** General Appropriations Act, introduced Jan. 19 by Patricia Lundstrom ... Among other appropriations, sets aside \$867 million from general fund, \$672,300 from other state funds, \$52.9 million from internal service funds and interagency transfers, and \$10.8 million from federal funds to higher education department for spending or allocation to higher education agencies in fiscal year 2022 ... Currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee.

**HB 25** LESC Study of Public & Postsecondary Education, introduced Jan. 4 by G. Andres Romero ... Tasks Legislative Education Study Committee to study issues pertaining to public schools and public postsecondary education in New Mexico. Currently in House State Government, Elections & Indian Affairs Committee.

**HB 43** Black Education Act, introduced Jan. 5 by Sheryl Williams Stapleton ... Requires development of racial sensitivity and anti-racism training for public education and higher education. Currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee.

**HB 83** Change Graduation Requirements, introduced Jan. 13 by G. Andres Romero ... Calls for high school students receiving opportunity to prepare next-step plans to include curricular and course options such as dual credit, career pathways, college prep. Currently in House State Government, Elections & Indian Affairs Committee.

**HB 87** Yazzie Lawsuit Higher Ed Funding, introduced Jan. 14 by Derrick Lente ... Makes appropriations to state institutions of higher education and tribal colleges to comply with the Martinez & Yazzie v. New Mexico lawsuit by improving educational outcomes for certain students and families. Currently in House Education Committee.

**HB 100** College & Career Readiness Systems, introduced Jan. 15 by Raymundo Lara ... Funds \$3 million for college and career readiness systems statewide and sets requirements to receive funding. Amended version currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee. (See also SB 107.)

**HB 101** New Mexico Lottery Educational Assistance Act, introduced Jan. 15 by Raymundo Lara, Phelps Anderson, Randall Pettigrew, Steven Neville ... Adds certain other types of gaming as potential revenue sources for state lottery educational assistance program. Currently in House Education Committee.

**HB 117** General Appropriations Act of 2021, introduced Jan. 19 by Patricia Lundstrom and Nathan Small ... Among other appropriations,

funds \$6,984,200 for instruction and general purposes, \$1,866,600 other and \$453,200 athletics, along with \$483,800 student retention and completion, \$251,000 nurse expansion at Luna Community College. Currently in House Appropriations & Finance Committee. (See also SB 176.)

**HB 131** Assistant Secretary of Hispanic Education, introduced Jan. 19 by Christine Trujillo ... Creates position of assistant secretary of Hispanic education in the Higher Education Department. Currently in House Education Committee.

**HB 133** College Hunger Reduction Pilot Program, introduced Jan. 19 by Joanne Ferrary, Karen Bash, Melanie Stansbury ... Appropriates \$100,000 to Higher Education Department for pilot program. Currently in House Agriculture & Water Resources Committee.

**HB 217** Public health emergency lottery scholarships, introduced Feb. 2 by Micaela Lara Cadena ... Amends eligibility requirements for student to receive legislative lottery scholarship during public health emergency. Currently in House Education Committee.

**HB 218** Student Loan Bill of Rights Act, introduced Feb. 2 by Patricia Roybal Caballero and Katy Duhigg... Enacts regulations over student loan servicers. Currently in House Commerce & Economic Development Committee. (See also SB 164.)

**Senate Bill 21** Retiree Health Care Act, introduced Jan. 19 by Roberto Gonzales and Natalie Figueroa ... Changes retiree health care act to conform to federal patient protection and Affordable Care Act. Amended version currently in Senate Finance Committee.

**SB 39** Names of Finalists for Executive Positions, introduced Jan. 19 by Bill Tallman ... Exempts records for certain appointive executive position applicants from public inspection pursuant to the Inspection of Public Records Act. Currently in Senate Judiciary Committee.

**SB 42** Increase to Educational Retirement Contributions, introduced Jan. 19 by Mimi Stewart ... Increases certain contributions to the educational retirement fund. Currently in Senate Finance Committee.

**SB 77** Two Plus Two Pilot Program, introduced Jan. 19 by Gay Kernan ... Creates regional Two Plus Two pilot project to establish seamless transition from community college to university and measure student and institutional outcomes. Currently in Senate Finance Committee.

**SB 94** Student Athlete Endorsement Act, introduced Jan. 19 by Mark Moores, Bill O'Neill and Antonio Maestas ... Changes limitations against student athletes earning compensation through use of their name, image or likeness. Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 107** Career Readiness Systems Statewide, introduced Jan. 19 by Roberto Gonzales ... Funds \$3 million for college and career readiness systems statewide and sets requirements to receive funding. Currently in Senate Education Committee. (See also HB 100.)

**SB 135** Opportunity Scholarship Act, introduced Jan. 31, by Bill O'Neill and Joy Garratt ... Creates Opportunity Scholarship fund for two-year and

four-year colleges and universities. Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 148** Diversity Commission, introduced Jan. 31 by Mimi Stewart ... Creates Commission on Diversity, Equity and Excellence in Education. Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 151** Educational Loan Repayment, introduced Jan. 31 by David Gallegos ... Enacts Instructional Support Provider Loan Repayment Act. Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 158** Career Job Readiness Programs Funding, introduced Jan. 31 by Pete Campos ... Appropriates \$575,000 to Workforce Solutions Department for job readiness programs for youth and adults. Currently in Senate Taxation, Business & Transportation Committee.

**SB 164** Student Loan Bill of Rights Act, introduced Jan. 31 Katy Duhigg... Enacts regulations over student loan servicers. Currently in Senate Taxation, Business & Transportation Committee. (See also HB 218.)

**SB 165** NMFA Public Projects, introduced Jan. 31 by Shannon Pinto and Nancy Rodriguez ... Authorizes the New Mexico Finance Authority to make loans for public projects from the public project revolving fund available to various entities including Luna Community College for building, equipment, infrastructure, debt refinance, road, land acquisition, water, wastewater, water rights and solid waste projects. Currently in Senate Indian, Rural & Cultural Affairs Committee.

**SB 169** Create Higher Ed Coordinating Council, introduced Jan. 31 by Roberto Gonzales ... Creates Higher Education Coordinating Council, gives HED sole authority to approve capital expenditures of state postsecondary institutions. Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 176** General Appropriation Act of 2021, introduced Jan. 31 by George Munoz ... Among other appropriations, funds \$6,984,200 for instruction and general purposes, \$1,866,600 other and \$453,200 athletics, along with \$483,800 student retention and completion, \$251,000 nurse expansion at Luna Community College. Currently in Senate Finance Committee. (See also HB 117.)

**SB 233** Student Bill of Rights, introduced Feb. 1 by Linda Lopez ... Enacts Student Bill of Rights for public school students and includes right to access counseling for vocational and other college information, among other rights. Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 240** Vocational Training Scholarship Act, introduced Feb. 1 by Cliff Pirtle. Appropriates \$2.55 million and authorizes scholarships for career technical education courses at community colleges ... Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 253** Higher Education Department Libraries, introduced Feb. 1 by Shannon Pinto. Appropriates \$494,000 to HED for improvements in internet access in college and university libraries ... Currently in Senate Education Committee.

**SB 263** Adult Workforce Diploma Program Act, introduced Feb. 1 by Craig Brandt ... Establishes program and contract guidelines for provision of workforce diploma services ... Currently in Senate Education Committee.

*As of noon Feb. 5, 2021. Compiled by Dave Kavanaugh, LCC Communications & Marketing.*