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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Adair ORIGINAL DATE 2/25/09
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE Bipartisan Redistricting Commission, CA SJR 15
ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 583

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Attorney General's Office (AGO)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Resolution 15 proposes amendments to articles 4 and 20 of the Constitution of New Mexico to establish a bipartisan redistricting commission to determine congressional and state legislative district boundaries following each federal decennial census or as otherwise required.

The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date that may be called for that purpose.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The AGO provided the following:

If this resolution is approved by the voters it will be a departure from how redistricting has been done in the past.

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Authority to create a boundary plan after a census will be transferred from the legislature to a commission.

This is a policy decision for the legislature. Some review of the 2000 redistricting efforts should be made in making such a decision.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Secretary of State should be able to handle the election requirement as part of ongoing responsibilities.

RELATIONSHIP

SB 583 provides that all precinct boundaries will be frozen until January 31, 2012 except for those needing adjustment to comply with the Precinct Boundary Adjustment Act. It also updates reference to the census year and allows for redistricting adjustments to coincide with federal, state, county, municipal and school district boundaries.

DW/mt