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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/08/13
 SPONSOR Cervantes LAST UPDATED 03/14/13 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE Water Shortages and Infrastructure Needs SM 89/aSfI#1/aSfI#2
 ANALYST Chavez

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates, Relates to, Conflicts with, Companion to SJM 55

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SFI Amendment #2

The Senate Floor amendment #2 to Senate Memorial 89 makes the following changes:

1. On page 1, line 11, strike the word “chair” and insert in lieu thereof “director”.
2. On page 2, line 7, strike the word “chair” and insert in lieu thereof “director”.
3. On page 2, line 16, strike the word “chair” and insert in lieu thereof “director”.

Synopsis of SFI Amendment #1

The Senate Floor amendment #1 to Senate Memorial 89 inserts “, pueblos, tribes, Indian Nations” on page 2, line 12, after the word “business”.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Memorial 89 requests the State Engineer and the chair of the Interstate Stream Commission to engage stakeholders to explore measures to address water shortages and infrastructure needs. The stakeholders should include representatives of agricultural, business and environmental interests; municipalities; and rural, urban, senior and junior water rights owners and users.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the memorial, the data indicates New Mexico is in a drought of historic proportions. In addition, SM 89 states urban growth and historic agricultural economy have created tensions among traditional water users. Ownership and control of water resources continue to be a source of conflict among stakeholders and communities of interest, and legal expenses and policy disputes escalate as the continued availability of water supplies and delivery systems becomes more doubtful.

The NMDA notes that SM 89 does recognize that as drought conditions stay the same or worsen that a variety of existing water users may face increased challenges from competition for the limited water supply.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Senate Joint Memorial 55 requests that the New Mexico Legislative Council appoint a subcommittee on extreme drought and wet water usage.

KC/blm:svb