

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Campos ORIGINAL DATE 3/3/15
LAST UPDATED 3/5/15 HB _____
SHORT TITLE Address Northeastern NM Water Issues SM 45/aSRC
ANALYST Peterson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC

The Senate Rules Committee amendment strikes “climate change” on page 1, line 17.

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 45 would requests OSE, Interstate Stream Commission, and water stakeholders in northeastern New Mexico study various options for addressing water shortage issues in that area, including identifying potential water sources outside of the region and developing a pipeline to some other large-scale regional water project to bring water to the area.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to OSE, the SM 45 correctly notes the increasing stress on water supplies and recognizes the need for integrated, regional solutions to present and future water demand. The requested State Engineer and Interstate Stream Commission involvement is already being provided in the context of ongoing regional water planning. The ISC regional water plans,

Senate Memorial 45/aSRC – Page 2

currently being updated, can be used to further coordination of the stakeholders. The current ISC Planning regions covering this geographical northeastern area are: Colfax County, NE New Mexico, and the Mora-San Miguel Guadalupe regions. Solutions to the water management challenges facing this portion of the state will only be possible through regional efforts, such as those being conducted by the ISC. Additional funding for regional water planning may be required.

SEP/aml/bb