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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**BILL NUMBER:** House Bill 190

**SHORT TITLE:** Homelessness Services for LGBTQ+

**SPONSOR:** Anaya

**LAST UPDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ORIGINAL DATE:** 01/30/2025 **ANALYST:** Chilton

### APPROPRIATION\* (dollars in thousands)

FY26	FY27	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$1,000.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

\*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

House Bills 189 and 191.

### Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency or Agencies Providing Analysis

Workforce Solutions Department

Children, Youth and Family Department

Agency or Agencies That Were Asked for Analysis but did not Respond

Office of Family Representation and Advocacy

## SUMMARY

### Synopsis of House Bill 190

House Bill 190 (HB190) appropriates \$1 million from the general fund to the Workforce Solutions Department (WSD) for the purpose of helping homeless LGBTQ+ individuals with housing assistance and avoiding eviction.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, which is May 20, 2026.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 shall revert to the general fund. WSD states it can absorb any costs to implement this program using current resources.

Although this bill does not specify future appropriations, funding services creates an expectation the program will continue in future fiscal years; therefore, this cost could become recurring after the funding period.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

WSD points out that federal funding for housing assistance has new requirements that remove any ability to recognize needs of nonbinary individuals: A November 2025 directive from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development allows an application to be evaluated based on whether the project uses racial preferences or “other forms of illegal discrimination” and “awards made under this Notice of Funding Opportunity will not be used to... conduct activities that rely on or otherwise use a definition of sex as other than binary in humans.”

Further, WSD points to a lack of available capacity to deal with these or other children and young adults, quoting statistics that there are only 214 beds for homeless individuals (of all types) ages 14 to 24 throughout the state.

WSD also summarizes results of a 2024 Trevor Project nationwide survey, which found that almost three-fourths of New Mexico LGBTQ+ youth considered their communities as “accepting, trustworthy, and active in standing up for them,” leaving 27 percent of this population feeling poorly supported.

According to the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD),

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer persons (LGBTQ+) young adults, especially those with minimal natural supports, or with families who do not affirm their identities, are at greater risk for housing insecurity than other young adults. Family rejection or conflict over a young adult’s sexual orientation or gender identity often results in the loss of basic supports that most young adults take for granted during the transition into adulthood.

Government support with eviction prevention and housing assistance can make a critical difference in a young adult’s life, particularly when they may be facing a loss of natural supports simply for expressing who and what they naturally are. LGBTQ+ children and youth are at increased risk for involvement with child welfare and juvenile justice system involvement because of this increased fragility of natural supports.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Related to House Bills 189 and 191, both of which deal with services for LGBTQ+ individuals.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The phrase “homeless LGBTQ+ individuals with housing assistance and help avoiding eviction” would seem to be self-contradictory. A homeless person cannot be evicted.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

According to WSD:

If the bill is not enacted, the department and the statewide homelessness response system should expect the following consequences for LGBTQ+ eviction prevention and homelessness assistance, because there will be no targeted state backfill to protect access and continuity if federal or local funding is reduced:

- Reduced access to eviction prevention and homelessness assistance for LGBTQ+ individuals. Without the \$1 million state investment, there is no dedicated backfill to stabilize housing and service access for LGBTQ+ individuals if other funding is reduced or disrupted.
- Disproportionate harm to gender-diverse program participants. Gender-diverse participants have lower positive exit rates from homelessness; service reductions would further undermine progress toward housing stability.
- Provider capacity and participation risk. If federal requirements reduce eligibility or create material risk for applicants, fewer organizations may be able to participate or sustain LGBTQ+-affirming eviction prevention and homelessness assistance, reducing access and increasing the likelihood of service gaps.
- Instability for programs that braid funding. Programs that rely on multiple funding sources are vulnerable when one source is reduced; without a state backfill, some projects may be unable to maintain operations or service levels.
- Loss of shelter and service capacity. Absent the \$1.0 million backfill, reductions in available funding may require programs to reduce units/bed capacity, service levels, or operating hours, resulting in measurable declines in system capacity.
- Severe impacts to program participants. LGBTQ+ individuals experiencing homelessness often face compounded barriers; interruptions in assistance directly threaten housing stability, safety, and continuity of care.

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