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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 288

SHORT TITLE: NM Historic Women Marker Program

SPONSOR: Armstrong/Herndon/Brown

LAST ORIGINAL
UPDATE: 2/03/2026 **DATE:** 2/03/2026 **ANALYST:** Rodriguez

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY26	FY27	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
\$450.0		Nonrecurring	General Fund

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Relates to an appropriation in the House Appropriation and Finance Committee Substitute for House Bill 2 & 3

Sources of Information

LFC Files

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

Because of the short timeframe between the introduction of this bill and its first hearing, LFC has yet to receive analysis from state, education, or judicial agencies. This analysis could be updated if that analysis is received.

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 288

House Bill 288 (HB288) appropriates \$450 thousand from the general fund to the Cultural Affairs Department (DCA) for expenditure in fiscal years 2026 through 2029 for the continuation and expansion of New Mexico historic women marker program. 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 \$450 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY29 shall

revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The program honors women who helped shape the New Mexico's history through roadside markers, educational banners, and public-school curriculum. DCA received \$500 thousand in 2024 for the program for expenditure in FY25 through FY27. The agency has encumbered 99.3 percent of funds from that appropriation. DCA does not anticipate any administrative impact from this bill.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

HB288 relates to an appropriation to DCA in the House Appropriation and Finance Committee Substitute for House Bills 2 & 3, which appropriates \$200 thousand in one-time funding to DCA for the New Mexico women's historical marker program.

JR/cf/ct