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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 310

SHORT TITLE: Study Lowrider Museum

SPONSOR: Herrera/Ortez/Sanchez/Lujan

LAST ORIGINAL
UPDATE: 2/06/2026 **DATE:** 2/06/2026 **ANALYST:** Rodriguez

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.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency or Agencies Providing Analysis
Cultural Affairs Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 310

House Bill 310 (HB310) appropriates \$1 million from the general fund to the Cultural Affairs Department (DCA) for a feasibility study and planning and implementation for a lowrider museum in Espanola for expenditure in FY27. 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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Legislature appropriated \$500 thousand in nonrecurring funding to DCA during the 2025 session for feasibility studies, planning, design, and improvement of historic sites and museums statewide. Of that amount, DCA allocated \$100 thousand to conduct a feasibility study for a lowrider museum. The study's scope includes a detailed evaluation of key factors affecting project viability, with a primary focus on the visitor experience. DCA's contract for the

feasibility study runs through June 2026.

DCA indicates that the appropriation in HB310 would be used to carry out the recommendations and next steps identified in this year's feasibility study. However, DCA notes it is unclear whether the proposed appropriation would be sufficient to fund full architectural drawings, site-specific environmental assessments, land surveys, detailed gallery and workshop programming, and sustainability planning.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DCA notes it would utilize existing internal project management resources to oversee the transition from study to implementation, procurement of services, and management of contractors.

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