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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

BILL NUMBER: House Memorial 17

SHORT TITLE: TV & Film Industry Task Force

SPONSOR: Herndon

LAST UPDATE: 2/6/2026 **ORIGINAL DATE:** 1/29/2026 **ANALYST:** Francis

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
RLD	\$10.0	\$25.0	Choose an item.	\$35.0	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency or Agencies Providing Analysis

Regulation and Licensing Department
Economic Development Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Memorial 17

House Memorial 17 (HM17) directs the Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD) to convene a task force to study and recommend a regulatory framework for TV and Film industries, including an evaluation of activities that warrant oversight and recommendations to promote transparency, fairness and workforce protection while supporting industry growth.

The task force will include representatives from:

- Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists
- NM Film Office
- Governor's Council on Film and Media Industries
- House and Senate
- Casting society
- Talent agencies
- Department of Justice
- Albuquerque Film Office
- Film Las Cruces

- Indian Affairs

The task force will complete its work and report by November 1, 2026 to the governor, legislative interim committees that study courts, corrections and justice, the NM film division of Economic Development Department, and the Screen Actors Guild.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The task force created in this memorial is outside of the normal operations of the [Regulation and Licensing Department \(RLD\)](#). RLD reports the agency would need \$10 thousand in FY 26 to get the task force established and \$25 thousand in FY 2027.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to RLD,

HM17 emphasizes the importance of these industries to New Mexico's economy, and that actors and other performers often rely on professionals with job titles like talent agents, managers, publicists, and consultants, to find jobs, manage their careers, and negotiate pay. However, many of these roles are not clearly defined or regulated in New Mexico, and some talent professionals may charge high fees or engage in unfair practices without oversight. HM17 notes that other states have laws that define and regulate talent agents, managers, and related services, but New Mexico does not.

RLD reports 10 states currently regulate talent agencies, through licensing and/or regulation. "HM17 could lead to state laws or rules governing talent agents, managers, publicists, casting services, and related professionals," some of which will need some form of license or certification in the future by RLD or another board or commission.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

RLD:

HM17 contains no language addressing the costs in FY27 involved for the Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD) to devote the considerable staff time and operational and infrastructure resources necessary to organize the required task force which would have a minimum of twelve (12) members, schedule and conduct meetings of the task force, carry out all necessary research and legal drafting of proposals and required report(s), and drafting of potential legislative proposals that may be recommended by the task force.

EDD is concerned the timeframe for the report may limit the analysis:

House Memorial 17 requires the task force to be convened by July 15, 2026, complete its study by November 1, 2026, and report findings by November 30, 2026. This schedule leaves a relatively short period to organize membership, gather data, solicit stakeholder input, and conduct a thorough analysis of complex industry practices. Given the extensiveness of services under review and the number of participating entities, this timeframe may limit the depth of analysis and stakeholder engagement.