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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 183

SHORT TITLE: Study Creating Regional Urgent Care

SPONSOR: Sen. Stefanics and Thornton/Reps. Gonzales and Lord

LAST ORIGINAL
UPDATE: _____ **DATE:** 02/05/2025 **ANALYST:** Chilton

APPROPRIATION*
(dollars in thousands)

FY26	FY27	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$250.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT*
(dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
HCA		\$97.9		\$97.9	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency or Agencies Providing Analysis
Health Care Authority

Agency or Agencies That Were Asked for Analysis but did not Respond
Council of State Governments
New Mexico Counties

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 183

Senate Bill 183 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Health Care Authority for the purpose of conducting a study of the feasibility of creating an emergency room or urgent care facility in Torrance County and surrounding jurisdictions.

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 \$250 thousand 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

A search for health care providers in Torrance County indicates that there are three locations at which health care can be obtained within the county:

- Estancia, open Monday-Friday 7 am to 5 pm
- Mountainair, open Monday-Friday, 8 am to 5 pm
- Moriarty, open Monday-Friday, 7 am to 5 pm

If urgent medical care is needed outside those hours, a patient would have to drive as much as 120 miles to Albuquerque (from the farthest part of the county) to obtain care.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HCA states that, if this bill is passed, it “would conduct a request for proposals (RFP) to identify an appropriate vendor to conduct this analysis. The contracted vendor would use a variety of resources to assess the feasibility of creating a regional urgent care or emergency room medical facility in Torrance County and surrounding jurisdictions. While SB183 does not specify the content of the feasibility study, it would likely include an inventory of services in the region, review of gaps or barriers to service, workforce availability, and cost analysis.

HCA has estimated needing one (1) FTE at a pay band of C7 to function as the procurement manager and contract manager for this work. This would be a total of \$97,900 for salary, fringe, and administrative costs to the general fund. This may become eligible for federal match if the work specifies Medicaid.”

TECHNICAL ISSUES

It is not clear what the term “surrounding jurisdictions” means.

LAC/dw