

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/24/13

SPONSOR Sharer LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Create 14th Judicial District SB 214

ANALYST Jorgensen

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY13	FY14		
None	\$90.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0.0	\$386.2	\$445.3	\$831.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

The bill amends Section 34-6-1 NMSA 1978 to create the Fourteenth Judicial District and modify the Eleventh Judicial District. The Eleventh Judicial District, currently composed of the counties of McKinley and San Juan, would be limited to the county of McKinley. The county of San Juan would become the Fourteenth Judicial District. The Eleventh Judicial District currently has eight judges. The bill assigns three judges to the Eleventh and five to the Fourteenth Judicial District. The bill transfers all appropriations, personnel, money, records, furniture, equipment, office supplies, and other things of value and all contracts, liabilities, or other obligations attributable to those five judges currently in the Eleventh Judicial District (San Juan County) to the Fourteenth Judicial District.

The bill also provides for the assignment of district attorneys in the Eleventh Judicial District (McKinley County) and the 14th Judicial District Court (San Juan County), including a transfer of personnel, operations, and funding attributable to the district attorneys assigned to San Juan and McKinley Counties.

The bill appropriates \$90,000 from the general fund to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) for expenditure in fiscal year 2014 to pay for salaries, benefits, office supplies, materials, and other costs associated with the creation of a Fourteenth Judicial District. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year 2014 shall revert to the general fund. The bill repeals current Sections 36-1-8.2 and 36-1-8.3 NMSA 1978. The effective date of the provisions is July 1, 2013.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The creation of the 14th Judicial District (San Juan County) is going to require five full time employees for the 11th Judicial District (McKinley County) so that both judicial districts can operate independently, namely a Court Executive Officer 2, IT Specialist Senior, Administrative Assistant 2, Court Financial Manager, and a Financial Specialist II. SB 214 as written is underfunded. The bill appropriates \$90,000, which is \$386,164 less than what would be needed for a full fiscal year to hire five full time employees as of July 1, 2013. The total impact for a 12-month fiscal year would be \$476,164. There will be recurring costs of \$445,289, plus yearly salary increases appropriated by the legislature for staff. The total non-recurring costs are \$30,875.

NCJ/svb