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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Cervantes ORIGINAL DATE 3/4/19
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE State Engineer Qualifications SB 606
ANALYST Hanika-Ortiz

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

| | FY19 | FY20 | FY21 | 3 Year Total Cost | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|--------------|------|---------------------|------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Total | | No fiscal impact | | | | |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 606 proposes to amend Section 72-2-1 NMSA 1978 to establish alternative qualifications for a person to be appointed State Engineer. Those alternative qualifications include "...the theoretical knowledge, practical experience and skill necessary for the position". The bill also several times replaces the term "he" with "the state engineer" to add gender-neutral language.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Section 72-2-1 NMSA 1978 currently requires a nominee for State Engineer to be "a technically qualified and registered professional engineer". SB 606 would broaden the pool of eligible candidates for State Engineer to also allow persons with "the theoretical knowledge, practical experience and skill necessary for the position..." to be appointed as State Engineer.

Under SB 606, the State Engineer would still be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate.

AHO/gb