NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used for other purposes.

The most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Alta	mirano	DATE TYPED:	2/9/03	HB	
SHORT TITL	E: _	Public Safety Telecor	nmunicator Traini	ng Act	SB	386
				YST:	Maloy	

APPROPRIATION

Appropriatio	on Contained	Estimated Add	litional Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
			See Narrative		

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

<u>Responses Received From</u> Department of Public Safety Office of the Attorney General

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

- Senate Bill 386 creates a new training standard for employees or volunteers of safety agencies who receive calls and dispatch appropriate personnel or equipment in response.
- The bill states that the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy Board shall develop and implement a planned program for "basic telecommunicator training and in-service telecommunicator training", and that the training shall be consistent with the Public Safety Telecommunicator Training Act. Employees of safety agencies must complete this training within 12 months of beginning employment.
- The bill also establishes the base "qualifications" an applicant must possess for training and work in the telecommunicator field.
- SB 386 allows the director of the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy to waive this training in very limited circumstances. These limited circumstances are: (1) the employee possesses a police radio dispatch certification, or (2) the employee has completed a different telecommunicator training program that, in the director's opinion, is substantially equivalent to the board's basic program.

• The bill also provides for at least twenty hours of board-approved "advanced training" for certified telecommunicators, to be taken once every two years.

Significant Issues

- Those working in this capacity in New Mexico's safety agencies are the frontline response to emergencies, both individual and public. This training is key to ensuring the most timely, appropriate responses.
- The current training, standards and procedures are not consistent. They are not consistent throughout the state's various agencies, and are not consistent with the Public Telecommunicator Training Act.
- This bill is the result of a collaborative project, undertaken by the Department of Public Safety/Law Enforcement Academy Board, the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, and the National Emergency Number Association.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 386 contains no appropriation. There will be some costs to the Department of Public Safety, Law Enforcement Academy Board, for the basic training and the advanced re-certification. The department has indicated it can absorb any such costs into existing budget and FTE resources.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Law Enforcement Academy Board will be required to undertake building the program, and has indicated it is capable of doing so within its current budget and FTE levels.

SJM/njw:yr