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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ingle DATE TYPED 01/31/04 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Use of Neighborhood Electric Cars on Streets SB 226

ANALYST Valenzuela

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	NFI		NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

No Responses Received From
Department of Transportation
Department of Public Safety

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 226 adds a new section to the Motor Vehicle Code that authorizes neighborhood electric cars to be driven on certain streets, except where prohibited by a local authority or the Department of Transportation. A neighborhood electric car is defined as a four-wheeled electric motor vehicle that has a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour but not less than 25 mph, complies with federal requirements in 49 CFR 571.500, and is equipped with safety equipment such as stop lamps and seat belts.

Significant Issues

Neighborhood electric cars are currently street-legal in 37 states. This bill places New Mexico among this majority of states and provides an alternative to gas- or diesel-powered cars, thereby reducing tailpipe emissions and reducing dependence on foreign oil.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 226 does not contain an appropriation.

MFV/dm