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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Hall DATE TYPED 02/01/05 HB HM 9

SHORT TITLE Abuse of Tort Law Against Firearm Industry SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Ford

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 9 calls upon the New Mexico Congressional delegation to support the end of the abuse of tort laws against the firearms industry.

#### Significant Issues

The United States Congress is currently considering several pieces of legislation that would pre-empt state law and limit lawsuits brought by individuals against firearms manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

By providing immunity to firearms manufacturers, distributors, dealers and importers, federal legislation would pre-empt future lawsuits, which could reduce the caseload of the courts. The AOC anticipates that this impact would be very minimal.

**SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

New Mexico is one of 21 states that allows individuals as well as local governments to bring lawsuits against firearms manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers.

Twelve states prohibit local governments from bringing such lawsuits but allow individuals to bring lawsuits. Seventeen states prohibit lawsuits brought by both individuals and local governments.

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