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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lundstrom DATE TYPED 3/11/05 HM 53

SHORT TITLE Investigate Animal Rescue Organizations SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Medina

### APPROPRIATION

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

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files  
 Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)  
 NM Livestock Board

Response Not Received From  
 Attorney General (AG)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Memorial

House Memorial 53 requests that the Attorney General, AODA and the NM Livestock Board work in cooperation to investigate animal rescue groups that raise funds as charitable organizations but do not provide animal rescue services in an appropriate manner. The memorial also requests that the Attorney General and AODA report to the Legislature on their investigation and enforcement actions involving animal rescue groups organized as charitable organizations to provide care and rehabilitation services to animals rescued from abusive circumstances.

#### Significant Issues

While the AODA has indicated that it has neither the resources nor expertise necessary to conduct such an investigation, the New Mexico Livestock Board already does monitor animal rescue groups' facilities and their ability to provide care for livestock. However, the Livestock Board does not monitor the misuse of funds by these organizations.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Livestock Board asserts that the memorial would have a minimal additional fiscal and administrative impact on the agency since it already performs the activity that the memorial requests of the agency.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

According to the Livestock Board, under the memorial, the Attorney General may get a call about a rescue facility misusing funds, and at that time, the Livestock Board would have to investigate the facility to assure the livestock are being cared for properly. The Livestock Board indicates that this process is currently in place for the agency although with this bill being passed, the Attorney General could assure the funds are being used for the care of the livestock.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?**

If this memorial is not enacted, the House of Representatives would not request the cooperation of the Attorney General, AODA and the NM Livestock Board in monitoring the misuse of funds by organizations claiming to provide animal rescue services.

**DXM/lg**