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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/13/06

SPONSOR     Komadina     LAST UPDATED                      HB                     

SHORT TITLE     Study Permit For Certain Drivers To Speed     SM     41    

ANALYST     Peery    

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
NA	NA	NA	NA

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)  
Department of Transportation (DOT)

#### No Response Received From

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 41 calls for the secretary of the Department of Public Safety to convene a meeting that includes the secretaries of the Department of Transportation and Taxation and Revenue Department to study the possibility of creating a “you’ve got a ticket to speed” program by which drivers can purchase a permit to exceed the established speed limit. The memorial request the secretaries consider the pragmatic steps required to implement such a program, including the following:

- whether drivers with a ticket to speed would require a license plate decal or other means of signaling law enforcement;
- whether the ticket to speed is limited to rural areas or also includes municipalities; and
- whether the ticket to speed is better sold in one sum or in three, five mile-per-hour increments, up to fifteen miles per hour over the posted speed limit.

The memorial requests the secretaries jointly report to the interim legislative Health and Human Services Committee before its October 2006 meeting.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

DPS reports New Mexico has come a long way in making highways safer and making it legal for a person to speed could jeopardize progress. DPS states speed is a significant contributing factor in accidents across the state and it is a fact that the greater the speed the more likely serious injuries will occur when an accident happens. DPS also states the faster a vehicle is traveling, the less time a driver has to react to a potential hazard. DPS reports making it legal to speed could potentially increase the number of accidents occurring on our roadways, as well as the severity of injuries sustained in these accidents.

DPS reports that when a vehicle is clocked speeding by a police officer, the officer will give chase requiring the officer to travel at a high rate of speed to catch the vehicle. DPS states that it would not be until the officer catches up to the vehicle that the officer would know that the vehicle has a “ticket to speed”; therefore, unnecessarily endangering the lives of citizens, visitors to New Mexico and the police officer.

DOT states from a technical and safety standpoint, this would be contradictory to the design and operation practices adopted by the department and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials as there are documented studies showing significant safety concerns and data associated with facilities having any allowable speed differentials to exist.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

DOT reports there will be an administrative impact to the department in having to participate in the development of the “ticket to speed” program in addition to any ongoing measures established by such a program.

RLP/yr