

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

	ORIGINAL DATE 2/18/07		
SPONSOR	Campos	LAST UPDATED	HB
SHORT TITLE	SAN MIGUEL COUNTY BUREAU OF ELECTIONS STAFF	SB	1027
		ANALYST	Propst

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$70.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 1027 appropriates \$70.0 to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance to create a full time bureau of elections position in San Miguel County.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$70.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DFA notes that the San Miguel County Clerks office consists of an elected official, chief deputy clerk, and two full time employees. The San Miguel County Clerks office is responsible for overseeing all elections within the County, including land grants and school elections. San Miguel County has three school districts, two colleges, and numerous land grants located within the County. The county also oversees the municipal elections. In addition, the County Clerk's office is responsible for recording all legal documents, issuing marriage licenses, and officially

recording all county meetings.

Recent changes such as paper ballots, Help Americans Vote Act, and allowing additional time for early and absentee voting have resulted in additional duties for the Clerk's office.

Generally, the Bureau of Elections is overseen by the Clerk, and is responsible for the entire election process, including voter registration, candidate services, early voting, etc.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The San Miguel County Commission will be responsible for budgeting the appropriation through formal resolution approved by the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance, and for allowable expenditures, i.e. hiring qualified staff.

WEP/nt