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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-22-07

SPONSOR Pinto LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Meat Inspection Cultural Considerations SB SJM 29

ANALYST Woods

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Responses Received From
New Mexico Livestock Board¹

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 29 requests the New Mexico Livestock Board to help retain small businesses in communities throughout New Mexico and preserve traditional practices of Native American and Hispanic communities by taking into consideration cultural and traditional practices in adopting regulations for meat inspection and slaughterhouses.

There is no appropriation attached to this legislation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

The joint memorial urges the New Mexico Livestock Board to begin a dialogue with leaders of traditional Native American and Hispanic communities to discuss the potential for working together to develop better communication and to provide better understanding of the needs of both the traditional community leaders and the regulators pertaining to the butchering or slaughter of animals in traditional ways for feasts, ceremonies and community gatherings.

¹ Agency comments requested on 2-4-07.

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It resolves that the New Mexico Livestock Board and the proprietors of small slaughterhouses and butchering operations that provide meat and slaughtered animals for ceremonies, Hispanic community matanzas and other traditional community gatherings and celebrations work together to sustain these small businesses to promote the traditions and cultures of New Mexico.

It additionally resolves that the New Mexico Livestock Board work with Native American traditional spiritual leaders and proprietors of operations that butcher or slaughter animals for consumption at feasts, ceremonies, Hispanic community matanzas and other traditional gatherings to address regulatory restrictions of the United States department of agriculture that are impeding the operation of these small businesses and slowly destroying the underlying traditions of the cultures of New Mexico.

The joint memorial concludes with requests for the New Mexico Livestock Board report on its progress in developing better communication and establishing an ongoing dialogue to the appropriate legislative interim committee no later than September 1, 2007, and for copies of the memorial be transmitted to the governor, the president of the Navajo Nation, the chair of the all Indian pueblo council and the New Mexico Livestock Board.

BFW/nt