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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-20-07  
 LAST UPDATED 3-10-07      HB \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR Komadina

SHORT TITLE Promotion of Animal Rights      SM 26/aSRC

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

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (DGF)  
 New Mexico Department of Public Education (PED)

No Response Received From

New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

Senate Rules Committee amendment to Senate Memorial 26 amends the language as follows:

1. On page 1, line 13, strike "RIGHTS" and insert in lieu thereof "WELFARE".,

Synopsis of Original Memorial

Senate Memorial 26 calls for the state to support properly researched and industry-tested livestock and animal husbandry practices including:

- Promotion and protection of public safety and health;
- Compliance and enforcement of wildlife laws;
- Compliance with accepted animal husbandry standards;
- Use of safe transportation and handling facilities;
- Consultation with licensed veterinarians and industry experts; and

## **Senate Memorial 26/aSRC – Page 2**

- Protection of those that engage in animal enterprises using these practices.

The memorial also calls for the Senate to support:

- Fact-based education programs about animal production, use, service and companionship;
- Research to improve human and animal health, productivity and animal products;
- Research-based wildlife management practices;
- Lawful animal practices that increase public awareness of animals and their importance in modern life; and
- Efforts to protect domestic animals, wildlife and fish populations.

The memorial also calls for the Senate to oppose:

- The expenditure of public funds to promote animal rights and the use of education materials that discourage the use and enjoyment of animals and animal products;
- Legislation or regulations that restrict the use of animals in research, the use of animals for food, fiber or service, and the breeding and sale of animals.

Copies of this memorial are to be transmitted to the New Mexico Livestock Board, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture and the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

DGF indicates that the department has the Information and Outreach Division (PIO) that promotes similar goals as supported by this memorial. Since the department is already promoting these concepts through media materials and education programs, no additional fiscal impact is expected to occur. DGF adds that the memorial supports and directly relates to Chapter 17 where it states “this act and the policy of the state of New Mexico to provide an adequate and flexible system for the protection of the game and fish of New Mexico and for their use and development for public recreation and food supply, and to provide for their propagation, planting, protection, regulation and conservation to the extent necessary to provide and maintain an adequate supply of game and fish [17-1-1 NMSA 1978].”

PED indicates that the New Mexico Science Content Standards, Benchmarks, and Performance Standards (2003), Strand II, Standard II (Life Science) states: “Understand the properties, structures, and processes of living things and the interdependence of living things and their environments.” There are grade-level performance standards that identify the science content related to animals that teachers are expected to teach. The teaching of animal rights and encouragement or discouragement of the use of animal products is not listed in the performance standards.

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

PED suggests that the state and senate will not have a statement of support for practices, programs and research related to animal welfare and a statement of opposition to the teaching of animal rights and the use of materials that discourage the use of animal products and legal restrictions to the use of animals.