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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/22/2008
 LAST UPDATED 1/27/2008 HB _____

SPONSOR Sanchez, M.

SHORT TITLE School Board Elections SJR 4/aSRC

ANALYST Baca

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY08	FY09	FY10	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		(\$0.1)	(\$0.1)	(\$0.1)	Recurring	School District Funds

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

Senate Rules Committee amendments change the title and body of the resolution to allow school board elections to be held only in “non-partisan“ elections and prohibit the holding of school board elections in “partisan” elections.

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Resolution 4 proposes to amend the New Mexico State Constitution to allow school elections to be held at the same times as other elections. The amendment proposed shall be presented to the people at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date may be called for the that purpose.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

School districts currently incur costs for holding elections that are conducted through the office of the county clerk. Combining school board elections with other elections should lessen school district costs. Without knowing which school districts will consolidate their school board elections with other elections, it is not possible to compute any savings that might accrue to a school district. It is known that the size of the school district determines the costs incurred to hold an election.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Historically, voter turnout for school board elections has been extremely low. Consolidating these elections with other voting opportunities may provide greater citizen participation in the selection of local school board members and school public policy issues. It may be argues that adding public school issues to existing ballots exacerbate “too” long

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