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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

<b>SPONSOR</b>	<u>Boitano</u>	<b>ORIGINAL DATE</b>	<u>02-01-08</u>	<b>HB</b>	<u></u>
		<b>LAST UPDATED</b>	<u></u>		
<b>SHORT TITLE</b>	<u>Senate Proceedings Available Via Internet</u>	<b>SM</b>	<u>45</u>		
		<b>ANALYST</b>	<u>Padilla</u>		

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 445 (SM 45) requests that the Legislative Council Service initiate proceedings as expeditiously as possible with the necessary arrangements and contracts to ensure that the proceedings of the Senate will be streamed on the internet beginning in 2009. Proceedings of the Senate are to be made available to viewers and listeners via the internet. Copies of this Memorial are to be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative Council Service.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SM 45 states that legislative proceedings are available to the public in 45 states across the country via the internet and that the Legislature of New Mexico showed its support for streaming its proceedings to its citizens by appropriating \$75,000 for that purpose in 2005. The Senate webcasts will bring policy debates and “democracy in action” into the living rooms and classrooms of students.

In the January 14, 2008 meeting, the New Mexico Legislative Council declined to direct staff to issue a request for proposals to solicit bids so that webcasting could begin. The majority of Senate members express support for webcasting Senate proceedings.

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

If this bill is not enacted then the public, including citizens and students, will not have access to public policy debates and will not be able to view the “democracy in action.”

JRP/mt