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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Adair ORIGINAL DATE 03/03/11 HB _____
LAST UPDATED _____
SHORT TITLE Size Of Certain County Commissions, CA SJR 19
ANALYST Haug

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non- Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$104.0		\$104.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Resolution 19 proposes to amend Article 10, section 7 of the Constitution to require boards of county commissioners in counties with a population in excess of seventy-five thousand, of whom more than fifty percent are Native American, to consist of five members.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Secretary of State (SOS) has stated that although the county clerk includes the proposed amendments in his/her proclamation, it is the responsibility of the State to pay for the costs associated with the publication per Section 1-16-11 NMSA 1978. The approximate cost per constitutional amendment is \$104,000. That estimate is used in the table above.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Presently, County Commissioners may by unanimous vote adopt an ordinance to increase the size of the boards of county commissioners to five members, regardless of county population and the proportion who are Native American. It would appear that McKinley County is the only county in New Mexico close to the population requirements of SJR 19. The U.S. Census Bureau's 2009 estimates for McKinley county are:

70,513 population
74.2% Native American.

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The 2010 Census data is not yet available but it is conceivable that those numbers would qualify McKinley County for five county commissioners under the provisions of SJR 19.

GH/mew