

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/28/14
LAST UPDATED 01/28/14 HB _____

SPONSOR Martinez

SHORT TITLE Return BLM Lands to Land Grants SB SJM 7

ANALYST Weber

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

State Land Office (SLO)

General Services Department (GSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 7 notes that from the seventeenth century, grants of land were made throughout what is now the state of New Mexico, first by the king of Spain, then by the Republic of Mexico. The lands that now constitute New Mexico were incorporated from Mexico into the territory of the United States under the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits and Settlement of 1848, more commonly known as the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo promised to recognize the ownership of property of every kind in the areas ceded by Mexico to the United States. In the intervening one hundred sixty-five years, land grants have lost millions of acres of their original common lands, not least through fraud, chicanery, faulty surveying and punitive taxation.

The memorial requests that: 1) the New Mexico congressional delegation work with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to develop strategies to assist New Mexico's traditional land grants: 2) introduce legislation in the United States congress to return lands currently in possession of the BLM that were once part of land grant common lands to the land grants: and, 3) not to support legislation that would transfer lands currently under BLM control that were once part of land grant common lands to the United States forest service.

Senate Joint Memorial 7 – Page 2

Copies of this memorial should be transmitted to all members of New Mexico's congressional delegation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact identified.

ANA/jl