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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR HGEIC ORIGINAL DATE 3/9/15  
 LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 338/HGEIC

SHORT TITLE Change Certain Election Dates SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Jorgensen

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY15	FY16	FY17	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Recurring	

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Secretary of State (SOS)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

The House Government, Elections and Indian Affairs Committee substitute for House Bill 338 changes the dates on which certain elections are conducted to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years. The amendment provides a single election date for the following elections:

- School district
- Special taxes imposed for special hospital districts
- Special hospital districts
- Community college board
- Technical or vocational district
- School bond
- Flood control district
- Conservancy district
- District supervisor

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The fiscal impact of this legislation is not known as the SOS and County Clerks Affiliate provided differing analysis of the potential costs involved.

SOS writes:

All counties would be required to run multiple elections at the same time requiring additional resources for each county clerk’s office. The SOS would recommend the use of ballot on demand systems to minimize ballot confusion. Running all of these elections concurrently may cause the counties to need to obtain extra equipment such as ballot boxes, tabulators and ballot on demand systems.

CCA states:

Passage of HB 338CS will save tax payers of New Mexico a significant amount of money by consolidating elections.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

CCA states in the absence of the provisions of HB 338CS, voters will continue to be confused with regard to voting locations and voting dates for various elections that do not carry federal candidates. Additionally, entities responsible for holding elections will continue to spend thousands of tax dollars on elections with little public participation.

The SOS states that running all of these elections concurrently may cause the counties to need to obtain extra equipment such as ballot boxes, tabulators and ballot on demand systems.

Consolidating elections may result in higher voter turnout during these elections.

CJ/je