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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**SPONSOR** Sweetser **ORIGINAL DATE** 1/18/19  
**LAST UPDATED** 2/22/19 **HB** 276

**SHORT TITLE** Establish Advanced Mapping Fund **SB** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANALYST** Hanika-Ortiz

### REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20	FY21		
		Indeterminate	Recurring	Advanced Mapping Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Revenue Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

LFC files

Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 276 creates a new fund to support advanced mapping techniques for water resources.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

This bill creates a new nonreverting fund subjective to legislative appropriation. The fund would be established to receive appropriations and donations from various public and private entities. Money in the fund would not revert to any other fund at the end of any fiscal year and would be disbursed on DFA warrants pursuant to vouchers from the State Engineer or his/her designee.

Although HB276 would create a “fund,” it does not include an initial appropriation; however, the fund may receive appropriations and donations from other sources or private entities.

This bill creates a new fund and provides for continuing appropriations. The LFC has concerns with including continuing appropriation language in the statutory provisions for newly created funds, as earmarking reduces the ability of the legislature to establish spending priorities.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The bill defines “advanced mapping” as mapping using technologies such as light detection and ranging, underground aquifer mapping, high resolution aerial photography, and three-dimensional mapping.

In a 2018 analysis of this legislation, OSE and New Mexico Tech stated OSE would coordinate with other agencies and outside entities on mapping projects. New Mexico Tech added “the fund is a critical first step in the acquisition of new data in the state, especially in the arena of high resolution elevation data and imagery. Opportunities for matching programs for capturing this data exist and having a fund available will allow New Mexico to participate in these programs.”

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

OSE would have new responsibilities to oversee and coordinate both the fund and projects financed by the fund, possibly with participation of other agencies or outside entities.

**SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

In 2016 and 2017, the New Mexico’s 16 Regional Water Planning Regions completed an extensive process of updating their regional water plans, and identified several key collaborative projects. Data collection and monitoring, including advanced aquifer mapping, was one of the priorities identified by the 16 regions to improve understanding of regional water resources.

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

The Advanced Mapping Fund would not be created to receive appropriations and donations.

AHO/sb