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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	NSOR House Floor		ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED	3/06/21	HB	275/HFIS
SHORT TITI	LE Falle	n Officer Sig	nage on Highways		SB	
				ANA	LYST	Glenn

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	See 1	Fiscal Implication	ons			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION LFC Files

<u>Responses Received From</u> Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

The House floor substitute for House Bill 275 adds a section to Chapter 67 NMSA 1978 requiring NMDOT, by January 1, 2022, to create a program for the installation of memorial highway signs, known as "fallen officer signs," to commemorate law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while on a state highway or highway easement.

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

NMDOT states NMDOT would be responsible for creating, installing, maintaining, and repairing fallen officer signs. Additional costs to NMDOT would depend on the number of signs installed. NMDOT estimates the costs of installation to be up to \$1,200 per sign, including materials, installation labor, traffic control, etc.

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SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMDOT believes the fallen officer sign program required by HB275 would be similar to the state's existing DWI memorial sign program found in 18.20.7 NMAC. That rule provides guidelines for installing DWI memorial signs on state highways, as well as providing an application procedure for requesting the installation of a DWI memorial sign. Rule 18.20.7 also includes guidelines for the design and placement DWI memorial signs that comply with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

NMDOT will need to promulgate rules incorporating the new program into 18.20.7 NMAC or for the implementation and administration of a separate new program for the installation of fallen officer signs.

BG/al