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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Gonzales LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_  
ORIGINAL DATE 02/15/23  
BILL  
SHORT TITLE Acequia & Community Ditch Act Funds NUMBER Senate Bill 361  
ANALYST Sanchez

### APPROPRIATION\* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
\$400.0		Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses ( ) indicate expenditure decreases.

\*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Relates to Senate Bill 176

### Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Office of the State Engineer

## SUMMARY

### Synopsis of Senate Bill 361

Senate Bill 361 appropriates \$400 thousand from the general fund to the acequia and community ditch infrastructure fund (ACDIF) to carry out the purposes of the Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund Act.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect June 16, 2023 (90 days after the Legislature adjourns) if signed into law.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Office of the State Engineer's analysis explains an existing New Mexico Department of Agriculture program already manages the ACDIF. Beyond increasing funding, and thereby the number of projects that would receive financial assistance, there are no fiscal implications associated with this bill.

The appropriation of \$400 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY24 shall not

revert to the general fund.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Analysis from the Office of the State Engineer states:

The Acequia and Community Ditch Fund Act provides financial assistance for acequias and community ditches to help develop hydrologic studies, acquire technical and legal research, and other services necessary to conserve and protect water during and related to the adjudication process. The Acequia and Community Ditch Fund is administered by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) through a committee consisting of the Secretary of the NMDA, the Chairman of the ISC, and an individual elected by the NM Acequia Commission.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

SB361 relates to Senate Bill 176, which calls for transferring funds from the irrigation works construction fund to the ACDIF.

SS/rl/hg/mg