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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR <u>Pinto/Sedillo Lopez</u>	LAST UPDATED <u>3/16/23</u>	ORIGINAL DATE <u>3/14/23</u>
SHORT TITLE <u>Gun Violence Prevention Task Force</u>	BILL NUMBER <u>Senate Memorial 67/aSHPAC</u>	
	ANALYST <u>J. Torres</u>	

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact			
Total						

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
*Amounts reflect most recent version of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SHPAC Amendment

The Senate Health and Public Affairs amendment to Senate Memorial 67 amendment strikes language concerning law enforcement shootings. The third introductory paragraph of the unamended memorial reads as follows: “Whereas, there were five hundred sixty-two firearm-related deaths in New Mexico, of which two hundred forty-three were homicides and accidental and law enforcement shootings, and three hundred nineteen deaths were suicides;”

The SHPAC amendment strikes the underlined term “and law enforcement.”

Synopsis of Senate Memorial 67

This memorial addresses statewide gun violence by establishing a collaborative task force, to serve under the Crime Victims Reparation Commission, that would study and report the evidence-based root causes of New Mexico gun violence in order to reduce gun violence and enhance public safety.

The memorial resolves that the Crime Victims Reparation Commission convene a statewide gun violence task force to study gun violence and make recommendations for addressing the issue.

This task force would be composed of representatives from

1. Crime Victims Reparation Commission;
2. Public Education Department;
3. Higher Education Department;

4. Department of Public Safety;
5. Department of Health;
6. Human Services Department;
7. Children, Youth and Families Department;
8. Department of Game and Fish;
9. University of New Mexico;
10. Indian nations, tribes and pueblos;
11. Pueblo, federal and local law enforcement agencies;
12. Gun advocates and distributors; and
13. Anti-domestic violence and sexual assault groups.

The task force's purpose is to:

1. Study the root causes and contributing factors of gun violence in New Mexico and identify evidence-based strategies and policies that can effectively reduce the incidence of gun violence in the state;
2. Examine current state and federal laws related to gun ownership, possession, and use and recommend measures that can enhance public safety while respecting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens;
3. Examine ways to promote public education and awareness about the risks of gun violence and the importance of responsible gun ownership and storage; and
4. Engage with community leaders, law enforcement officials, healthcare professionals, and other stakeholders to develop and implement effective strategies and policies to prevent gun violence and enhance public safety.

The gun violence prevention task force will be requested to “create different stakeholder tables with different parties in order to define the problems, identify the risk and protective factors, define effective strategies and identify ways to develop and test prevention strategies;” and “to report its findings and conclusions to the interim committee dealing with courts, corrections and justice issues, the legislative health and human services committee and the governor.”

The memorial is to be transmitted to the crime victims reparation commission for distribution to task force representatives.

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 memorial has no appropriation. It is presumed the commission will absorb the costs of convening the task force.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The proposed senate memorial recites the following statewide concerns in its introductory paragraphs:

1. Gun violence is a serious issue affecting the United States and New Mexico, “with a significant number of deaths and injuries resulting from gun-related incidents;”
2. In 2021 there was a 16.8 percent spike in New Mexico gun deaths;
3. There were 562 firearm-related deaths, with 319 suicides;
4. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, guns are now the

- leading cause of death among United States children and adolescents;
5. Schools are struggling to respond and have received hoax shooting calls;
 6. Aside from the Navajo Nation police, New Mexico rural areas suffer from a scarcity of police power and slow response times, with no reliable response time data from Gallup to Tohatchi to Shiprock;
 7. A 2019 congressional study found New Mexico gun violence had cost \$1.8 billion, or \$852 per resident to that date;
 8. A comprehensive evidence-based collaborative study is required and will be crucial in identifying strategies and policies to reduce gun violence and enhance public safety.

JT/r1/JT