

LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Check all that apply:
Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date 1/8/2024
Bill No: HB43

Sponsor: William "Bill" Rehm
Short N/A
Title: _____

Agency Name and Code 420
Number: _____
Person Writing Leigh Anne Chavez
Phone: 505-629-3363 **Email** leighanne.chavez@rld.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
	400,000	Nonrecurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24	FY25		
0	0	0	0	0

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

This bill proposes an appropriation from the general fund to the New Mexico Department of Public Safety (DPS) state police division of \$400,000. The funds would allow DPS to purchase tools to engrave numbers on to catalytic converters. The tools would then be loaned out by up to 24-month agreement to law enforcement and motor vehicle service and repair shops to provide catalytic converter engraving services to New Mexico residents at no cost, with DPS maintaining ownership of the engraving tools.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

\$400,000 would be appropriated from the General Fund to DPS to fund the purchase of engraving tools. Any unexpended or unencumbered funds at the end of the fiscal year would not revert back to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The consequences of not enacting this bill are that there will continue to be no way to “trace” stolen catalytic converters. A substantial obstacle to enforcement of laws prohibiting the theft of catalytic converters and of enforcing administrative penalties against secondhand metal dealers who purchase stolen converters is that it is difficult to identify a catalytic converter as stolen and trace it back to its true owner. Recent news reports indicate that in 2023, catalytic converter theft

remains 21 times higher than it was in 2019. A program of catalytic converter etching as described in this bill would be expected to be a public service welcome by many residents. It would appear to provide a useful tool in the fight against property crime.

AMENDMENTS