

LFC Requester:	Joseph Simon
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO:

Analysis.nmlegis.gov

{Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF}

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:

Date 01/25/2024

Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Prepared: _____
Bill No: HB 245

Sponsor: Representative Hembree

Agency Name and Code Number: Tourism - 418

Short Title: ROSWELL AIR CENTER AIR RACING EVENTS

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
	\$10,000	Nonrecurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25	FY26		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(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:

House bill 245 appropriates \$10M to the aviation division of the department of transportation for improvements to the Roswell Air Center for the purpose of hosting air racing events. The appropriation is to be expended from fiscal years 2025 through 2029 for construction, reconstruction, repairs, and improvements, including planning, design and equipment.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2029 shall revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal implications for the tourism department.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

As of January 2024, Roswell is one of six finalists for the relocation of the Reno Air Racing Association’s (RARA) National Championship Air Races and Air Show, which will begin in its new city in 2025.

The National Championship Air Races and Air Show attracted an estimated 140,000 visitors to Reno, Nevada in 2023. Reporting of the 2023 attendance noted that it was approximately 30-40% higher than in previous years. The race and air show could potentially generate significant economic impact within the tourism sector in Roswell, and across the economy. A 2019 economic impact study by the University of Nevada showed an overall annual economic impact of \$100 million from the event.

If Roswell is not selected to host this event, improvements could attract smaller scale air racing events.

Though the \$10 million appropriation is not in the executive budget, overall improvements to the Roswell Air Center could help to improve connectivity and ridership at the airport in general, which has the potential to increase visitor access to the southeastern region of New Mexico.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to Senate bill 199.