

<b>LFC Requester:</b>	<b>Conner Jorgensen</b>
-----------------------	-------------------------

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS  
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:**

[LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV](mailto:LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV)

*and*

[DFA@DFA.NM.GOV](mailto:DFA@DFA.NM.GOV)

*{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** January 24, 2024

**Bill No:** HM 17

**Sponsor:** Eleanor Chavez  
**Short Title:** Social Worker Enviro Justice Principles

**Agency Name and Code** Regulation and Licensing - 420  
**Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Person Writing** Carrie Cochran  
**Phone:** 505-476-4612    **Email** Carrie.cochran@rld.nm.gov

**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
N/A	N/A		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25	FY26		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>	<b>FY26</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>	1.0	N/A	N/A	1.0	Nonrecurring	Social Work Fund

(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 Memorial 17 (HM 17)

Many of the proposed principles will be considered to be more in the vein of aspirational concepts/ideas as opposed to regimented and definable subject areas for the curriculum/training of students and practitioners in the field of social work.

House Memorial 17 (HM 17) requests social workers in New Mexico adopt principles of environmental justice for competent practice. The principles of environmental justice include the following:

- (A) the right of freedom from ecological destruction;
- (B) the affirmation of ecological unity and the interdependence of all species;
- (C) the right of freedom from all forms of discrimination or bias;
- (D) that public policy be based on mutual respect and justice for all people;
- (E) the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land and renewable resources in the interest of maintaining a sustainable planet;
- (F) the fundamental right to clean air, land, water and food;
- (G) universal protection from nuclear testing, extraction and production and disposal of toxic or hazardous wastes or poisons;
- (H) the fundamental right of all people to political, economic, cultural and environmental self-determination;
- (I) the cessation of production of all toxins, hazardous wastes and radioactive materials and that past and current producers be held accountable for detoxification and containment at the point of production;
- (J) the right of all people to participate as equal partners at all levels of decision-making, including needs, assessment, planning, implementation, enforcement and evaluation;
- (K) the right of workers to a safe and healthy work environment;
- (L) the right to quality health care;
- (M) the right of victims of environmental injustice to receive full compensation and reparations for damages;
- (N) that governmental acts of environmental injustice violate international law, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;
- (O) recognition of the special relationship of Native American people to the United States Government treaties agreements, compacts and covenants affirming sovereignty and self-determination;
- (P) the need for urban and rural ecological policies to clean up and rebuild cities and rural areas

in balance with nature, honoring the cultural integrity of all communities, with fair access to the full range of resources for all;

(Q) strict enforcement of principles of informed consent and the end of testing of experimental reproductive and medical procedures and vaccinations on people of color;

(R) opposition to the destructive operations of multinational corporations;

(S) opposition to military occupation and repression and the exploitation of lands, people, cultures and all life forms;

(T) educating present and future generations with an emphasis on social and environmental issues based on diverse cultural perceptions; and

(U) that individuals make conscious lifestyle choices to prioritize health of the natural world for present and future generations by consuming as little as possible and producing as little waste as possible.

HM 17 provides commentary regarding the mission of New Mexico Highlands University Facundo Valdez School of Social Work's Center for Excellence in Social Work and makes statements concerning the primary mission of the social work profession including the desire to help meet the basic needs of all people. HM 17 states that New Mexico residents are hard-hit by environmental inequities, injustices and climate change, with twenty-eight (28) of its thirty-three (33) counties designated as drought and disaster zones by the United States Department of Agriculture, and that the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration has identified indigenous people, communities of color, refugees, immigrants, people experiencing poverty, seniors citizens, children, people who are unhoused and people with behavioral health needs as disproportionately affected by environmental disasters.

HM 17 provides that social workers are front line responders who help individuals, families and communities overcome trauma, grief and displacement from natural disasters such as wildfires, drought and flooding, and identifies a total of four thousand two hundred forty (4,240) social workers employed in community and service occupations in New Mexico. HM 17 also identifies that in New Mexico there are approximately one thousand six hundred nine (1,609) undergraduate and graduate students from four accredited universities in the social work workforce pipeline.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

In order to adopt the principles as provided in HM 17, the Board of Social Work Examiners (board) would be required to adopt official administrative rules. To adopt such rules, the board must conduct a statutorily required rulemaking process. If the board were to decide to adopt those rules upon the passage of HM 17, that would mean conducting the rulemaking process during FY24 (prior to June 30, 2024). The costs to the RLD to conduct one (1) rulemaking hearing for an administratively attached board or commission runs approximately one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for court reporting, filing and publication fees, as well as costs for board member per diem.

### **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**

**AMENDMENTS**