

LFC Requester:

Jorgensen

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:

Original Amendment
Correction Substitute

Date 1/20/2024

Bill No: SB 94

Sponsor: Crystal Diamond Brantley
Short Appropriation for Enologist
Title:

Agency Name and Code New Mexico State University/954
Number:
Person Writing Clayton Abbey
Phone: 505-239-8821 Email nmsufir@nmsu.edu

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
\$0	\$250.0 to be spent FY25-FY27	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

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

(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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

Senate Bill 96 appropriates \$250,000 to the New Mexico State Board of Regents over FY25 through FY27 for an oenologist (wine making professional who specializes in the process of making wine). Any funds remaining after FY27 would revert to the General Fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The fiscal impact besides the \$250,000 expenditure described in the bill is unknown.

According to the latest Census of Agriculture (2017), New Mexico has 1,280 acres of grapes on 376 farms, assumed to be primarily wine grapes as the state does not have a table grape industry. The New Mexico Wine Association lists 56 wineries on their website, about three-quarters representing unique companies. According to a study commissioned by the National Association of American Wineries (in 2022) there were 57 wineries and 300 vineyard acres in New Mexico in 2022. The report indicated that total taxes generated by New Mexico's wine industry were \$80.8 million, including \$31.6 million in state and local taxes. The report estimated 7,918 jobs related to the industry (including wine-tourism-related jobs).

To the extent that the position funded by the bill would support the industry additional fiscal impacts may be observed, although again, unknown at this time.

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

Note: if additional operating budget impact is estimated, assumptions and calculations should be reported in this section.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill does not provide recurring funding and as such the funded oenologist could only be employed temporarily or on a "consulting" basis, for a period of one or two years. It is unclear how much support such a "consulting oenologist" would be able to provide.

Many industry participants have, historically, indicated a need for an oenologist to complement the work of the New Mexico State University viticulturalist. An oenologist could provide valuable assistance to the state's wineries in improving wine quality.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Adding an oenologist to the University's Food Science program would allow the university to continue its land-grant mission of supporting the agricultural community, in this case specifically wine growers and wine makers. This individual can support the industry by providing expertise and education in producing better wine through sensory testing, chemical testing, tasting, etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

New Mexico State University would not be able to hire an oenologist between FY25 and FY27. The state would not have a state-funded oenologist.

AMENDMENTS

N/A