

N/A	N/A	N/A		

(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						

(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

SB 106 establishes a commission whose purpose is planning, promoting, and implementing celebrations and related activities commemorating the two hundred fiftieth (250th - semiquincentennial) anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the founding of the United States of America. The commission is chaired by the Governor and includes representatives from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and representatives from the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs (NMDCA), New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED), New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, New Mexico Public Education Department, New Mexico Tourism Department, and New Mexico National Guard. Additionally, the state historian and four members of the public, appointed by the governor, would serve on the commission. Staff from NMDCA would support the commission.

SB 106 provides the powers and duties of said commission and makes a non-recurring appropriation of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) from the General Fund for its operation.

The goals of the commission are increasing awareness and understanding of the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the establishment of the United States's system of government; promoting civic knowledge of the United States's system of government and the role of its

citizens in government; and increasing public knowledge of American history and the ideals put forth in the Declaration of Independence.

As part of its work, the commission would consult and cooperate with national, state, local, and private organizations as appropriate to achieve its goals. Additionally, the commission would partner with the presidents of each state university in New Mexico to coordinate events at those institutions which engage in activities related to the commission's goals.

The commission would disband after the completion of its work on December 31, 2026.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB106 appropriates two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in non-recurring funds from the General Fund to the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs for the expenses of the commission for expenditure from FY24 to FY27.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB106 establishes a commission whose purpose is planning, promoting, and implementing celebrations and related activities commemorating the two hundred fiftieth (250th - semiquincentennial) anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the founding of the United States of America

By December 31, 2024, the commission is required to submit a report on its recommendations for the ceremonial, educational, and scholastic commemoration of the semiquincentennial in New Mexico.

HB511 was proposed in the 2007 legislative session for the celebration of the New Mexico Centennial. This bill was not implemented.

A national non-partisan commission on the semiquincentennial was founded by the United States Congress in 2016 which is conducting similar work as proposed by this bill across the United States. The national commission is supported by the nonprofit organization America250.org.

While the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) is not required to engage in activities beyond supplying one staff member to the commission, NMHED may be responsible for ensuring that state universities complete required activities. As such, work on this commission and its activities may require the reallocation of staffing resources to commission-related work.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SB106 does not outline specific performance measures.

If funded, the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) may need to monitor activities occurring at state universities which meet the bill's requirements.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs would administer this program.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

New Mexico could seek to engage with America250.org to achieve the goals of the proposed commission.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If SB106 is not enacted, a semiquincentennial (250th anniversary) commission would likely not be created without action by other government bodies. While semiquincentennial related activities would likely occur to some extent given the presence of a national commission, their scope and scale may be more limited in New Mexico. The two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in non-recurring funds would not be appropriated from the General Fund for the work of the proposed commission.

AMENDMENTS

N/A