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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR <u>Sharer</u>	LAST UPDATED <u>2/08/2024</u>	ORIGINAL DATE <u>1/19/2024</u>
SHORT TITLE <u>Declaration of Independence Anniversary</u>	BILL NUMBER <u>106/aSIRC/aSFC</u>	ANALYST <u>Rodriguez</u>

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT*

(dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Cultural Affairs Department		\$250.0		\$250.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis Received From

Tourism Department (NMTD)
 Cultural Affairs Department (CAD)
 Higher Education Department (HED)

Agency Analysis was Solicited but Not Received From

Governor's Office
 Lieutenant Governor's Office
 Indian Affairs Department (IAD)
 Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SFC Amendment to Senate Bill 106

The Senate Finance Committee (SFC) amendment to Senate Bill 106 removes the \$250 thousand appropriation.

Synopsis of SIRC Amendment to Senate Bill 106

The Senate Indian, Rural and Cultural Affairs Committee amendment to Senate Bill 106 requires the state historian to convene the first meeting of the semiquincentennial commission.

Synopsis of Original Senate Bill 106

Senate Bill 106 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Cultural Affairs Department (DCA) for expenditure in fiscal years 2024 through 2027 for the expenses of the semiquincentennial commission to plan and implements celebrations for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the founding of the United States on July 4, 2026. The commission is created in the Cultural Affairs Department and will consist of 15 members from various departments, the governor and lieutenant governor, and four public members. The commission will terminate on December 31, 2026.

Through its events, digital and print media presence, and education outreach, the commission will be responsible for promoting an awareness of the Declaration of Independence, the Revolutionary War, the establishment of the constitutional self-government, and American history.

The commission will submit a report to the governor by December 31, 2024, outlining recommended activities and allocation of financial and administrative responsibility to participatory entities.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, or May 15, 2024, if enacted.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The \$250 thousand appropriation was removed in the SFC amendment. The Cultural Affairs Department had previously indicated the appropriation would be sufficient to cover the expenses of the commission. Without the appropriation, funding for the commission would need to come from another source or the Cultural Affairs Department would need to absorb the costs which may or may not be feasible.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The U.S. #Semiquincentennial Commission was established by Congress in 2016. The commission is supported by a nonprofit, America250.org. The commission is composed of 26 total members, including private citizens, U.S. representatives and senators, and ex-officio members. The U.S. commission reports that at least 35 other states and territorial entities have created their own commissions. This bill allows the New Mexico commission to cooperate with the U.S. commission and other national and state organizations to celebrate the semiquincentennial.

The Tourism Department (NMTD) notes that building in-state pride is part of the agency's strategic planks and would potentially serve visitors, such as friends and family of residents. However, NMTD does also note that it is unclear the extent the commission will attract visitors from outside of New Mexico.

JR/rl/ne/al/ne