

LFC Requester:

Carlie Malone

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO****[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](https://www.legis.nm.gov/AgencyAnalysis) and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.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}***Date Prepared:** 1/16/26*Check all that apply:***Bill Number:** HB50Original ☒ Correction ☐Amendment ☐ Substitute ☐**Sponsor:** Pamelya Herndon, Sarah Silva**Short** Social Work Licensure**Title:** Interstate Compact**Agency Name****and Code**Dept. of Workforce Solutions-631**Number:****Person Writing**Sarita Nair**Phone:** 505-263-3187**Email** Evan.Sanchez@dws.nm.gov**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT****APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| FY27 | FY28 | | |
| \$0 in this bill | \$0 in this bill | | |
| | | | |

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

| Estimated Revenue | | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| FY27 | FY28 | FY29 | | |
| Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | | |
| | | | | |

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

| | FY27 | FY28 | FY29 | 3 Year Total Cost | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Total | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | | | |

(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: HB 7 enacts the social work licensure interstate compact, which requires the state to license and regulate the practice of social work, sets forth some standards for licensure, require applicants for a multistate license to pass a qualifying national exam, and participate in certain nationwide activities. The bill also sets forth the rules of eligibility for an individual who wishes to have a multistate license, and outlines the requirements of individuals holding a multistate license. If enacted, New Mexico would be part of the social work licensure compact commission, and the bill sets forth the role and operations of that commission. The bill also makes some changes to the definition of social work practice and clinical social work practice

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

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.

HB7 requires significant work at the Regulation and Licensing Department. WSD is unable to estimate the cost of this additional work or whether it would require additional FTEs.

HB7 could result in additional revenue from licensure fees. WSD is unable to estimate additional revenue.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This report to LLHS contains good information from 2024 on the shortage of social workers in New Mexico that this bill aims to fix:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20073124%20Item%205%20CESW.pdf>

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None for DWS.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for DWS.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None known.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None known.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Recruitment of social workers who are licensed in other states or who already have a multistate license would not be an option for addressing the shortfall of social workers in New Mexico.

AMENDMENTS

None.