

LFC Requester:

Noah Montano

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 1/20/2026

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB 51

Original X

Correction

Amendment

Substitute

Sponsor: Reps. Jenifer Jones and
Kathleen Cates

**Agency Name and
Code Number:** 305 – New Mexico
Department of Justice

**Short
Title:** Spay & Neuter Fee Delayed
Repeal

**Person Writing
Analysis:** Deborah J. Varol

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	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

This analysis is neither a formal Opinion nor an Advisory Letter issued by the New Mexico Department of Justice. This is a staff analysis in response to a committee or legislator's request. The analysis does not represent any official policy or legal position of the NM Department of Justice.

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: This bill repeals the delayed repeal provision—Section 6 of Chapter 69 of Laws 2020—of the Spay and Neuter Program Fee established by Section 5 of Chapter 69 of Laws 2020. The delayed repeal is currently effective July 1, 2026.

The Spay and Neuter Program Fee established by Section 5 of Chapter 69 of Laws 2020 funds a spay and neuter assistance program for low-income individuals. It is an annual fee assessed on commercial pet feeds which are registered with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 76-19A-10. Collected Spay and Neuter Program Fees are distributed by the state treasurer, where ninety-six percent of the Fees go to the statewide spay and neuter subaccount of the animal care and facility fund, and four percent of the Fees go towards administering the New Mexico Commercial Feed Act.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

N/A

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None

ALTERNATIVES

None

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If the bill is not enacted, the Spay and Neuter Program Fee assessed according to NMSA 1978, § 76-19A-10.1 will be repealed effective July 1, 2026.

AMENDMENTS

None