

LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez
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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: 1/20/26

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB 58

Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. Andrea Reeb, Rep. Luis M. Terrazas, Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez

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

Person Writing

Analysis: Jennifyr Vickery, AAG

Short Title: Telephone Crimes

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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: House Bill 58 seeks to amend the crime of the use of a telephone to terrify, intimidate, threaten, harass, annoy or offend to include electronic communication expanding the inclusivity of a broader range of electronic communication devices and platforms.

House Bill 58 Section 1 amends NMSA 1978, Section 30-20-12 by replacing language specifying “telephone” to broaden the covered language to include all “electronic communication.” This will allow for expansion to prevent contact to terrify, intimidate, threaten, harass, annoy or offend beyond just the limited telephone calls as is currently in place in the statute.

Additionally, Section 1 (E) of this amendment will add a definition of “electronic communication” to include a wide range of available platforms including text, social media, instant messaging, etc. to modernize the scope of technological and electronic platforms covered by the definition. A definition of “social media” is also provided in the amendment to provide guidance and language for the purposes of this statute for what would qualify as “social media” platforms.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues noted.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

This amendment will allow for better protection for victims of harassing contact designed to terrify, intimidate, threaten, harass, annoy or offend for contact beyond just that through telephone calls. This amendment seeks to modernize the statute to bring it up to date with current available electronic communications. As such, there may be an increase in the number of misdemeanor cases punishing this form of contact.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No significant administrative implications noted.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

HB 58 may be related to HB 22 because both bills deal with electronic communication. While HB 58 penalizes harassing the victim directly, HB 22 would penalize the distribution of sensitive images (not to the victim). HB 22 expands the crime of unauthorized distribution of sensitive images to include sensitive deepfake images. It creates a new crime: threatening to distribute sensitive images or deepfake images, and it defines “sensitive deepfake image” and clarifies what constitutes an intimate act. HB 22 establishes civil remedies for victims of publication of sensitive deepfake images and certain privacy-related crimes.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No issues noted.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No issues noted.

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo.

AMENDMENTS

N/A