

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov 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: January 21, 2026 **Check all that apply:**
Bill Number: HB 91 **Original** **Correction**
Amendment **Substitute**

**Agency Name
and Code**

Sponsor: Matthews **Number:** NM Sentencing Commission – 354
Short Redact Change of Cause of **Person Writing:** Keri Thiel
Title: Death Notification **Phone:** 505-259-8763 **Email:** kthiel@unm.edu

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		

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

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

House Bill 91 would amend Section 14-2-1.2 NMSA 1978, regarding law enforcement records as public records, to provide that visual or audio depiction of the notification to a member of the public that the cause of death of their family member has been changed may be redacted from public records. HB 91 allows that the visual or audio depiction of that notification may remain unredacted if permission is given by the person who received the notification.

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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The exception proposed by HB 91 is very similar to the existing exception for visual or audio depictions of a member of the public being informed of a family member's death. The exception proposed by HB 91 would likely serve the same policy purpose of avoiding the (arguably) unnecessary public disclosure of a likely difficult or painful personal moment for the person receiving the notification.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS