

LFC Requester: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO**  
[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](http://AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto: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:** 1/31/2026 *Check all that apply:*  
**Bill Number:** HB 128 Original  Correction   
 Amendment  Substitute

**Sponsor:** Reena Szczepanski & Cindy Nava **Agency Name and Code Number:** RMD/GSD  
**Short Title:** Firefighter Occupational Disease Disablement **Person Writing:** Andrew Magida  
**Title:** Disease Disablement **Phone:** 505-795-1797 **Email:** Andrew.magida@gsd.

**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	\$0	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown, but substantial	Recurring	Workers' Compensation Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/**Relates to:** Amends NMSA 52-3-32.1  
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: HB 128 would make it easier for full-time career firefighters to obtain workers' compensation benefits for certain cancers. HB 128 would make it easier for firefighters to get workers' comp benefits by expanding the types of cancers presumed to be caused by the claimant's term of service as a firefighter and by reducing the years of service a firefighter must serve before this presumption applies.

Under current law, a firefighter must serve for five (5) to fifteen (15) years for the statutory presumption to apply. Under HB 128, all the qualifying cancers would be subject to this presumption after five (5) years of service as a full-time firefighter.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

HB 128 would increase the cost of workers' compensation benefits to the state and other public bodies because HB 128 (1) lowers the threshold for establishing a presumptive causal link between certain health conditions and long-term service as a full-time, professional firefighter; and because HB 128 (2) increases the number of conditions eligible for this presumption. Combined, these two factors will likely lead to an increased number of claims eligible for workers' compensation benefits, and therefore higher costs.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

#### **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Amends NMSA 52-3-32.1

#### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

#### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

#### **AMENDMENTS**