

LFC Requester:

Harry Rommel

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 28, 2026 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB 150 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. Jones **Agency Name and Code** University of New Mexico-952
Short Title: Supervision of Physician Assistants **Number:** _____
Person Writing Kelly O'Donnell
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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 150 amends the Physician Assistant Act to eliminate mandatory physician supervision requirements for physician assistants (PAs) who have completed at least 4,000 hours of clinical practice experience. The bill redefines “collaboration” to emphasize consultation or referral as clinically appropriate rather than physical supervision, removes requirements to register supervising physicians with the New Mexico Medical Board, and allows experienced PAs to practice independently within their scope of education, training, and competence. PAs with fewer than 4,000 hours of experience must continue to practice under supervision or collaboration, as determined by board rules. The bill also makes conforming changes to licensure and fee provisions and maintains malpractice insurance requirements for PAs practicing independently or in collaboration

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Greater autonomy for experienced PAs could improve access to care in underserved areas.

The American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA) describes a national trend toward modernizing physician assistant (PA) practice laws by removing rigid, statute-mandated physician supervision requirements and replacing them with flexible, team-based practice models. Under this approach, PAs practice within their education, training, and experience, with physician involvement determined at the practice or employer level rather than dictated in law. Modernization typically eliminates mandatory supervision or delegation agreements, reduces administrative burdens (such as physician-to-PA ratio caps and proximity rules), and often includes experience-based transitions that allow seasoned PAs to practice with greater autonomy while maintaining patient-safety standards through licensure, scope-of-practice limits, and professional accountability.

Nationally, efforts to modernize PA practice laws have faced organized opposition primarily from physician-led organizations, most notably the American Medical Association¹ and affiliated state medical societies, as well as some specialty groups and the American Osteopathic Association.² These organizations have consistently opposed legislation that removes or reduces statutory physician-supervision requirements, framing such reforms as “scope of practice expansions” that they argue could undermine patient safety, blur accountability, and weaken physician-led care teams.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

¹ See: <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/scope-practice/unprecedented-measure-pa-oversight-fails-reach-floor> and <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/scope-practice/ama-successfully-fights-scope-practice-expansions-threaten>

²<https://app1.vocusgr.com/ViewAttachment.aspx?EID=Hs3nT12NkLE54HEU8wCpCYWKKYSynBxprp4sOX6IjzY%3d>

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS