

LFC Requester:

Scott Sanchez

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: 1/29/2026

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB197Original Correction Amendment Substitute Sponsor: Andrea ReebAgency Name
and Code770- NMCDShort Title: Increase Penalty for Larceny of
a FirearmPerson Writing A. Griego QuintanaPhone: 505-479-2296 Email Anisa.griego-quinta@cd.nm.gov**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	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A

(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 197 doubles the potential prison sentence for stealing a gun.

Existing law makes it a fourth-degree felony to steal a firearm from someone when it is valued at less than \$2,500, which upon conviction carries a basic sentence of 18 months in prison. HB196 makes it a third-degree felony, which carries a sentence of three years in prison.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bil 197 increases the penalty for theft of a firearm. Over time, this may result in longer periods of incarceration for affected individuals and could modestly increase average length of stay within NMCD. Any fiscal impact is expected to be incremental and gradual.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

By increasing penalties for firearm theft, House Bill 197 aims to deter the theft and redistribution of stolen guns, supporting community safety and reducing the likelihood of dangerous encounters faced by law enforcement.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None

ALTERNATIVES

None

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None

AMENDMENTS

None