

LFC Requester:	Emily Hilla
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS – 2026 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, an amendment, a substitute, or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 1/29/2026 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB198 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Alan Martinez **Agency Name and Code:** 790 – Department of Public Safety
Short Title: Behavioral Health & First Responder Training **Person Writing:** Jessica Arballo
Phone: 394-4464 **Email:** Jessica.Arballo@dps.n

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
NFI	NFI	NFI	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
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

HB 198 appropriates \$2 million from the general fund to the Department of Health for use in FY2027 to provide behavioral health treatment and training to first responders.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact to DPS.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues to DPS

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Behavioral health treatment and training directly improve the mental readiness of police officers, dispatchers, and other first responders, who regularly encounter traumatic incidents, violent crime scenes, and high-stress emergencies. Healthier personnel make better decisions under pressure, which enhances public safety overall.

By funding access to treatment and proactive training, HB 198 helps reduce long-term psychological injuries, improve retention of trained officers, and protect the state's investment in public safety personnel.

Behavioral health training strengthens crisis response in the field and equips law enforcement officers to better recognize mental health crises, de-escalate volatile encounters, and safely interact with individuals experiencing behavioral health emergencies. This training will likely reduce use-of-force incidents, injuries, and liability for the state.

Because the appropriation is administered through the Department of Health, HB 198 encourages coordination between public safety and health agencies, leading to more consistent, evidence-based training standards across law enforcement, EMS, and fire services.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No administrative implications to DPS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

No conflict, duplication, companionship, or relationship implications to DPS

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No technical issues to DPS

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No substantive issues to DPS

ALTERNATIVES

No alternative implications to DPS

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo will remain

AMENDMENTS

No amendments at this time.