

LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez
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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, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 29 JAN 2026 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB 206 Original X Correction
 Amendment Substitute

		Agency Name and Code		
Sponsor:	<u>Nicole Chavez</u>	Number:	<u>790 – Department of Public Safety</u>	
Short Title:	<u>Crime Victim Reparation Additional Crimes</u>	Person Writing	<u>Major Emmanuel T. Gutierrez</u>	
		Phone:	<u>505-917-2952</u>	Email: <u>Emmanuel.gutierrez@dps.nm.gov</u>

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	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	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

House Bill 206 (HB 206) amends New Mexico's Crime Victims Reparation Act by expanding the list of offenses for which victims can receive financial reparation. Specifically, the bill adds assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, criminal sexual contact (including criminal sexual contact of a minor), and armed robbery to the crimes covered under the act. By including these additional violent offenses, HB 206 ensures that more victims of serious crimes are eligible for compensation and support services through the state's crime victim reparation program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal implication for DPS.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues to DPS. HB 206 expands the Crime Victims Reparation Act ("CVRA"), NMSA § 31-22-8, to include assault, battery, criminal sexual contact, and armed robbery. While N.M. Const. art. II, § 24 enumerates specific crimes triggering constitutional victims' rights; the Legislature has broad authority to extend reparations beyond the constitutional floor. The CVRA has been amended multiple times to add crimes not in Article II, Section 24 (e.g., stalking, human trafficking), establishing precedent that statutory reparations may exceed constitutional minimums. No constitutional impediment exists to this expansion.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The New Mexico Department of Public Safety ("DPS") strongly supports HB 206 because it expands vital protections and resources for victims of violent crime. By including offenses such as assault, battery, criminal sexual contact, and armed robbery in the list of crimes covered by the Crime Victims Reparation Act, this legislation ensures that more victims can receive financial assistance for medical bills, counseling, lost wages, and other consequences of crime. Victims of these offenses often endure significant physical, emotional, and financial trauma, and HB206 acknowledges the importance of providing meaningful support to help them recover and rebuild their lives.

HB 206 also enhances New Mexico's overall public safety efforts by reaffirming the state's commitment to victims as a key part of the justice system. Supporting victims not only promotes healing but also encourages cooperation with law enforcement investigations and prosecutions, which is vital for holding offenders accountable. DPS believes that expanding eligibility for reparations will improve victim services, build trust between communities and law enforcement, and ensure that survivors of serious violent crimes receive the help they need. For these reasons, DPS urges the Legislature to pass HB 206.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No administrative implications to DPS.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

No conflict, duplication, companionship or relationship to DPS.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No technical issues to DPS.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No other substantive issues to DPS. Armed robbery (NMSA 1978, § 30-16-2) is a second-degree felony that involves the use or threat of deadly force, creating significant victim trauma that warrants reparation. Adding simple assault and battery addresses a coverage gap where victims suffer harm below the "aggravated" threshold but still incur medical costs and lost wages. Expanding criminal sexual contact to adult victims aligns statutory protection with the policy underlying the existing coverage for minors.

ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable as no impact to DPS.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo will remain. Victims of simple assault, battery, criminal sexual contact (adult victims), and armed robbery will continue to be ineligible for reparation benefits under the CVRA, creating an inequitable gap in victim services for serious violent crimes.

AMENDMENTS

None at this time.