

LFC Requester:	
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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: 2-5-26 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SB-259 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: William Sharer, Crystal Brantley **Agency Name and Code** AODA 264
Short Title: Create New Threats Against Law Enforcement **Number:** _____
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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

Senate Bill 259 creates two new crimes involving threats and the malicious sharing of personal information targeting law enforcement officers and their immediate family members. The bill makes it a fourth degree felony to threaten an officer or family member with the intent to cause fear of great bodily harm, interfere with the officer's duties, or retaliate for actions taken in the course of official duties. The bill also creates a misdemeanor offense for intentionally sharing specified personal information of an officer or family member with the intent to cause harm, create fear of great bodily harm, or disrupt the officer's ability to perform job duties. The bill defines "immediate family member," "law enforcement officer," and "personal information."

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 259 would likely have low fiscal impact on state and local criminal justice partners including the District Attorneys. The bill creates two new offenses, one a fourth degree felony and one a misdemeanor, which may result in additional arrests, prosecutions, and court proceedings. Any increase in caseload for law enforcement, district attorneys, public defenders, and the courts is expected to be small and absorbable within existing resources. No appropriation is contained in the bill.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Senate Bill 259 responds to a growing problem of threats, intimidation, and targeted harassment directed at law enforcement officers and their families. The bill creates two new offenses that provide clearer statutory tools to address conduct that may not be fully captured by existing threat or harassment statutes. By establishing specific crimes tied to threats against officers and the malicious sharing of their personal information, the bill is intended to deter conduct that undermines officer safety and the ability of law enforcement to perform their duties.

Threats against officers have become more common with the expansion of online platforms, where individuals can rapidly disseminate threatening statements or identifying information. The bill's creation of a standalone felony offense for threatening an officer or an immediate family member signals the seriousness of this conduct and may help prevent escalation by allowing earlier intervention. The misdemeanor offense for maliciously sharing personal information addresses doxxing behavior that can expose officers and their families to targeted harassment or physical danger.

For prosecutors, Senate Bill 259 provides a more direct charging option when threats or doxxing are clearly connected to an officer's role or intended to interfere with law enforcement operations. This may strengthen the ability of district attorneys to protect officers and their families and to respond to conduct that creates safety risks but may not fit neatly within existing statutes.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 259 would require only minimal training for law enforcement and prosecutors, limited to updating charging guidance and ensuring officers understand the elements of the new offenses. Any administrative adjustments can be absorbed within existing structures without significant cost.

or time.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL Status Quo

AMENDMENTS