

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION**

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**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

**Date Prepared:** 2/04/26 *Check all that apply:*  
**Bill Number:** HB273 Original  Correction   
 Amendment  Substitute

		<b>Agency Name</b>	
	R. Montoya, A. Reeb, J. Block,	<b>and Code</b>	NMCVRC/78000
<b>Sponsor:</b>	<u>W. Hall, N. Chavez</u>	<b>Number:</b>	
<b>Short Title:</b>	<u>Women's Safety and Protection Act</u>	<b>Person Writing</b>	<u>Frank Zubia</u>
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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

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

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
N/A	N/A	N/A	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
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

(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 273 establishes the Women's Safety and Protection Act, requiring single-sex spaces in domestic violence shelters, public schools, and juvenile detention facilities under specified circumstances. The bill defines key terms and sets standards intended to protect safety, privacy, and dignity in sensitive environments.

Synopsis: HB273 focuses on ensuring access to sex-segregated facilities for women and girls in environments where safety and privacy concerns are heightened. In the context of domestic violence shelters, the bill may necessitate changes to room assignments and facility usage to comply with single-sex space requirements. While the bill does not mandate new construction, it may influence shelter capacity and operational practices, particularly in high-occupancy regions.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

No direct fiscal impact to CVRC.

However, HB273 may result in indirect fiscal impacts to domestic violence shelters that receive state and federal funding administered by CVRC.

Domestic violence shelters, particularly those located in high-demand metro areas with elevated occupancy rates, may experience increased operational costs associated with compliance, including:

- The need to provide single-occupancy rooms to meet the bill's requirements;
- Reduced shelter capacity if shared rooms must be converted to single rooms;
- Increased use of hotel or motel placements when shelters are at capacity or unable to meet space requirements onsite.

While some shelters currently utilize hotel placements as an overflow or safety option, this approach carries a higher per-night cost and may strain limited operating budgets. These costs would be assumed by shelters and potentially reflected in future funding requests but would not require additional administrative funding or staffing for CVRC.

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

Note: if additional operating budget impact is estimated, assumptions and calculations should be reported in this section.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Domestic violence shelters prioritize survivor safety, confidentiality, and trauma-informed care. While the intent of HB273 aligns with safety considerations, compliance may require operational adjustments that could affect service availability, length of stay, and shelter throughput, particularly during periods of high demand.

CVRC may receive increased requests from providers seeking flexibility in funding use to address lodging or space-related costs associated with compliance.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None noted.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None noted.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

None noted.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None noted.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None noted.

**ALTERNATIVES**

Shelters may mitigate capacity constraints by continuing or expanding the use of hotel or motel placements for survivors when single-room shelter space is unavailable; however, this option is generally more costly and may not be sustainable without additional resources.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

None suggested.

**AMENDMENTS**

None suggested.