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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS  
2026 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:**

**LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV**

*and*

**DFA@STATE.NM.US**

*{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}*

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

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

*Click all that apply:*  
Original  Amendment   
Correction  Substitute

<b>Date</b>	
<b>Prepared:</b>	2026-01-16
<b>Bill No:</b>	HJM2

**Sponsor:** Brown, Cathrynn N  
IPRA  
**Short Title:** IMPLEMENTATION STUDY TASK FORCE

**Agency Name and Code** NMHED  
**Number:**  
**Person Writing:** Armijo, Alicia  
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**Phone:** 5054768411 **Email:** nm.gov

**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

<b>Appropriation</b>		<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

<b>Estimated Revenue</b>	<b>Recurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>

<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>FY28</b>	<b>or Nonrecurring</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

#### **ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>FY28</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	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 Joint Memorial 2 (HJM2) directs the New Mexico Attorney General (NMAG) to convene a task force to study the implementation of the Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA). The task force would be charged with evaluating the workability, functionality, and effectiveness of IPRA in ensuring government transparency and serving the public interest. This would be accomplished through the task force's gathering of input from relevant stakeholders. Based on the findings of the task force, the NMAG may be required to draft proposed legislation and recommendations for consideration. The draft legislation and recommendations would be considered during the 58<sup>th</sup> New Mexico Legislature.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

HJM2 does not provide an appropriation.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The NMAG would convene the task force established by HJM2. This task force would be required to have one representative from each of the following entities:

- Administrative Office of the Courts of New Mexico
- American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico
- New Mexico Association of Counties
- New Mexico Department of Justice (formerly The Office of the Attorney General)
- New Mexico Foundation for Open Government
- New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED)
- New Mexico Municipal League

- New Mexico Press Association

Additionally, HJM2 requires that the task force include:

- a defense attorney specializing in IPRA
- a plaintiff's attorney specializing in IPRA
- a public school records custodian

The task force would be required to provide public notice of its meetings and allow the public to provide input on its work.

The NMAG may be required to draft proposed legislation based on the task force's findings.

#### PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

#### ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HJM2 assigns new functions and duties to NMHED. HJM2 does not provide an appropriation to help cover the increased costs and workload associated with these new duties.

NMHED would be required to select at least one employee to serve in the task force HJM2 seeks to establish. Currently, NMHED has one staff member designated as a records custodian and responsible for handling IPRA requests.

#### CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

#### TECHNICAL ISSUES

The Office of the Attorney General is now called the New Mexico Department of Justice.

#### OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

#### ALTERNATIVES

N/A

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

If HJM2 were not passed, then a task force would not be created to study the implementation of IPRA, and the NMAG would not draft proposed legislation related to the findings of an IPRA task force.

#### AMENDMENTS

N/A

