

LFC Requester:	Connor Jorgensen
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## AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO  
[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](mailto:AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto: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:** Bill Number: HM0004 Original X Amendment Substitute

**Short Title:** LFC Study Expanded Health Insurance Access for Higher Ed

**Sponsor:** Rep Patricia Roybal Caballero

**Name and Code Number:** HCA 630

**Person Writing:** JoLou Trujillo-Ottino

**Phone:** 505 -795-3464      **Email:** jolou.trujillo-ottino@hca.nm.gov

### **SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
0.0	0.0		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

#### **REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	-	-

(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	\$15.0	0.0	\$15.0	Nonrecurring	SHB Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: House Memorial (HM) 4 requests that the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) conduct a study and issue a report on options to expand health insurance coverage for all public higher education educators and graduate student employees.

HM 4 documents the current situation and challenges facing higher education workers.

The requested study would be conducted by the LFC in collaboration with the Higher Education Department, the Department of Finance and Administration, Health Care Authority, the public higher education institutions, and higher education employer and employee stakeholder organizations.

HM 4 specifies the contents of report such as: options for providing employer-supported medical coverage, estimated fiscal impacts to the state and public higher education institutions, and funding approach.

The report would be due no later than October 1, 2026, and be delivered to the Governor, Legislative Finance Committee, Legislative Education Study Committee, Higher Education Department, Department of Finance and Administration, and Health Care Authority.

HM 4 requests that HCA collaborate on the study and report. If one of the options of interest involves covering higher education workers in SHB, the impact of bringing these workers into risk pool would need to be evaluated with the assistance of an outside actuary.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

HCA expects that its contracted actuaries will have to perform 20-40 hours of work on this project.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The timeframe of the report may be challenging due to the requested level of collaboration and analysis.

None for ITD

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None

None for ITD

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

There is required time for collaboration to produce the report by October 1, 2026, which will require an undetermined number of staff hours.

None for ITD

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

None

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None

**ALTERNATIVES**

None

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

There would be not be a study produced.

**AMENDMENTS**

None