LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS – 2026 SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
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(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

<u>SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION</u>
{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: *28JAN26*　　　　　*Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: *HM13*　　　　　Original ___　*X* Correction ___
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Amendment ___　Substitute ___

Sponsor: Andrea Romero and Christine Chandler

Agency Name and Code Number: 790 – Department of Public Safety

Short Title: 10-year Criminal Justice Plan

Person Writing Matthew Broom, Deputy Chief
Phone: 5757601485　**Email:** Matthew.broom@dps.nm.gov

<u>SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT</u>

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	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: 2023 SB-19
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

House Memorial 13 (HM-13) requests that the Legislative Finance Committee convene a task force to develop a ten-year plan and funding strategy to address and modernize systemic problems in the New Mexico criminal justice system that interfere with system performance, public safety, and equal justice under the law.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no short-term impact to the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Long-term fiscal implications, if recommendations are adopted, could include costs associated with training modernization, workforce restructuring, data system integration, and governance reforms

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DPS supports HM13 and recognizes the concerns raised in the report regarding the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy's (NMLEA) basic training curriculum. We understand the findings that the curriculum is outdated and not aligned with national standards, and we support working with the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) to discuss their findings and explore potential resolutions.

While the memorial lists the New Mexico State Police as a required participant, DPS notes that several additional divisions are directly implicated by the issues raised in the Legislative Finance Committee's 2025 Policy Spotlight. The report identifies system-wide challenges involving the Forensic Laboratory, the Law Enforcement Records Bureau, and the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy, all of which fall under DPS administration. The memorial's emphasis on standardized data elements, improved crime reporting, and modernization of statewide systems also affects the Information Technology Division, which manages the software platforms and infrastructure used by law enforcement agencies statewide. For these reasons, DPS recommends that the department—not only the State Police division—be explicitly included as a member of the task force to ensure comprehensive representation of the agency's statutory responsibilities.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The Task Force's recommendations could assist DPS in improving performance metrics.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The memorial requests DPS to provide information and recommendations to the task force, which would require staff time for presentations and data collection. The New Mexico State Police Division is specifically identified as a stakeholder. These administrative requirements are absorbable within existing resources and represent a minimal burden relative to the potential benefits of improved system-wide coordination and modernized training.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

The memorial relates to SB 19 (Laws 2023, Ch. 56), which appropriated funds for NMLEA to contract with the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) for job task analyses and curriculum modernization. HM13 would complement these ongoing efforts by establishing a broader stakeholder-driven planning process. No conflict or duplication is identified.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

HM13 does not create binding legal obligations or appropriate funds; it expresses legislative intent by requesting that the LFC convene the task force. The non-binding nature is typical of memorials under legislative practice. No technical drafting issues are identified that would affect DPS's interests.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The memorial's workforce development goals align with ongoing efforts to address law enforcement staffing shortages and retention challenges. Establishing career pathways linked to higher education, as contemplated by the memorial, could improve officer recruitment and retention statewide. The memorial also addresses the need for oversight mechanisms that may reduce civil rights litigation exposure for local agencies, which indirectly benefits DPS through improved system-wide standards and practices.

ALTERNATIVES

DPS supports HM13 as introduced. No amendments are recommended.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Without enactment, the systemic issues identified in the LFC Policy Spotlight reports and the IADLEST Job Task Analysis would continue unaddressed through a coordinated planning mechanism. Law enforcement training would remain outdated relative to national standards, crime data reporting gaps would persist, and the criminal justice system would lack a comprehensive ten-year modernization framework. The opportunity for stakeholder-driven reform recommendations for the 2027 legislative session would be foregone.

AMENDMENTS

DPS requests that the memorial include the entire Department—not just the State Police—as a task-force member. The Legislative Finance Committee's 2025 Policy Spotlight identifies system-wide concerns across the divisions responsible for crime data, forensic services, training standards, and core public-safety infrastructure. Including the full Department ensures the task force's recommendations reflect DPS's complete statutory and operational responsibilities.