

LFC Requester:

Noah Montano

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: 2/17/2026

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: House Memorial 63 Original Correction Amendment Substitute Sponsor: Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil
Short Title: Expand Chiropractic Scope of PracticeAgency Name
and CodeRegulation & Licensing Dept., 420

Number:

Person Writing

Jen RodriguezPhone: 505.623.1701Email Jen.rodriguez@rld.nm.gov**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
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: House Memorial 63 (HM 63)

HM 63 expresses support for expanding the scope of practice of certified advanced practice chiropractic physicians to include primary care services in order to help address New Mexico's shortage of primary care providers, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

HM 63 states that New Mexico faces a critical shortage of primary care professionals and highlights the extensive education and clinical training completed by chiropractic physicians. It notes that New Mexico is a national leader in chiropractic innovation through its advanced practice certification, which grants limited prescriptive authority for certain therapeutic and diagnostic services.

HM 63 further recognizes that certified advanced practice chiropractic physicians already serve on primary care teams in community health centers and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs clinics, where they help manage musculoskeletal and systemic conditions, order diagnostic tests and prescribe medications. It asserts that formally expanding their scope of practice to include primary care services would improve access to timely, cost-effective and holistic care statewide.

Additionally, HM 63 references the New Mexico Chiropractic Association's two-tiered certification system, designed to ensure appropriate training, competency and oversight for those providing primary care services, aligning with national trends toward integrative, team-based care.

Finally, the House of Representatives expresses its support for expanding the scope of practice for properly trained certified advanced practice chiropractic physicians, encourages the Chiropractic Board to further develop certification and training standards to ensure safe and effective primary care delivery, and directs that copies of the memorial be sent to the governor and relevant state officials.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Chiropractic Board (Board) is administratively attached to the Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD). The RLD, therefore, provides staffing and administrative support to the Board which would include assisting the Board with the research and analysis necessary for the Board to develop recommendations on certification and clinical training standards for certified advanced practice chiropractic physicians to provide primary care services. While HM 63 clearly contemplates the Board and the RLD expending time and resources to carry out the requested development of recommendations, HM 63 does not impose specific timelines or deadlines for the Board or RLD to perform these responsibilities. Therefore, the RLD does not anticipate a specific fiscal impact on the Board or RLD at this time.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HM 63 describes the two-tiered system of licensing for chiropractic physicians as a "proposed certification system." However, the two-tiered system has already been codified into law, the Board may issue advanced practice certifications and has promulgated rules to effectuate certification. *See* § 61-4-9.1 NMSA 1978 and Rule 16-4.15 NMAC.

The Chiropractic Board is in favor of the expansion of the Advanced Chiropractic program. The Board is aware of the need in New Mexico for primary care physicians due to a shortage of

providers. The Board knows that many new doctors want to come to New Mexico because of the Advanced Practice Chiropractic program.

There is an ongoing concern regarding overlapping scopes of practice between healthcare professions and the implications for both access to care and the health and safety of the public. There may also be a statutory conflict between this expansion of primary care services by certified advance practice chiropractic physicians and the Medical Practice Act §§ 61-6-1 to 34, NMSA 1978 which defines the medical scope of practice.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS