

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2026 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

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{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 _____

Date
 Prepared: 2026-01-21
 Bill No: SB6

Sponsor: Munoz, George K
 Short Title: NEW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FACILITY

Agency Name
 and Code NMHED
 Number:
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
N/A	\$546,600.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue	Recurring	Fund Affected

FY26	FY27	FY28	or Nonrecurring	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure 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)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act:

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 6 (SB6) appropriates five hundred forty-six million six hundred thousand dollars (\$546,600,000) from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY27 through FY30 to construct, equip, and furnish a new School of Medicine facility.

The New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) analysis of this bill focuses on the higher education implications of the proposed legislation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB6 makes a nonrecurring appropriation of five hundred forty-six million six hundred thousand dollars (\$546,600,000) from the General Fund. The appropriation is available for expenditure in FY27 through FY30. Any unexpended balance remaining six months after completion of the project or no later than the end of FY30 shall revert to the General Fund.

NMHED capital recommendation included seventy million dollars \$70,000,000 in General Obligation Bonds (GOB) and the remaining amount of Four hundred seventy million dollars (\$470,000,00) in other state funds (OSF). The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) framework includes Ninety-two million six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$92,625,000) in GOB and approximately Four hundred fifty-three million nine hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$453,975,000) in OSF including General Fund (GF) and Severance Tax Bonds (STB).

UNM identified a total project cost of Six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000), including a proposed institutional match of Sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000), and a state funding request of Five hundred forty million dollars (\$540,000,000).

Previous state funding for the School of Medicine includes thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) from the General Fund for expenditure in FY26 through FY29 to plan, design, construct, furnish, and equip a facility, including demolition, site work and enabling projects.

SB6 does not assign new operational duties to NMHED beyond its existing role in higher education capital planning and coordination.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM HSC) reports the project is designed to expand capacity for the School of Medicine pre-clinical curriculum (Years 1–2) through modern instructional, simulation, and interprofessional learning space. The institution indicates the facility is intended to support expansion of annual medical student class size by doubling enrollment capacity.

UNM HSC further reports the project is intended to support health workforce development by increasing enrollment capacity across health professions programs, improving in-state retention of graduates, and strengthening hybrid and distributed instructional delivery through integrated digital systems.

The proposed expansion is part of a broader institutional strategy to address projected statewide shortages in physicians and other health care providers and is intended to increase enrollment across multiple health-related programs over time.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SB6 does not outline specific performance measures. However, if funded, UNM should develop performance measures in coordination with NMHED.

The proposed expansion is part of a broader institutional strategy to address projected statewide shortages in physicians and other health care providers and is intended to increase enrollment across multiple health-related programs over time.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

SB6 does not assign new administrative duties to NMHED beyond its existing role in higher education capital planning and coordination. The project would be administered by the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico.

According to information presented to LFC, the School of Medicine expansion would require substantial growth in institutional operations over time, including the addition of faculty, residents, and staff, as well as expanded coordination between UNM HSC and UNM Hospital. The expansion is anticipated to increase the scale and complexity of academic, clinical, and administrative operations associated with the School of Medicine.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB6 relates to other proposed capital appropriations for the School of Medicine included in House Bill 2 (HB2) and capital outlay legislation utilizing other state funding sources, including general obligation bonds and severance tax bonds. Together, these funding sources are proposed to support planning, design, and construction of the School of Medicine facility for the full request of five hundred forty-six million six hundred thousand dollars (\$546,000,000). These proposals are consistent with the higher education capital funding framework developed through the NMHED capital outlay review process.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If SB6 is not enacted, the five hundred forty-six million six hundred thousand dollars (\$546,600,000) appropriation for construction, equipping, and furnishing of the University of New Mexico School of Medicine facility would not be provided entirely from the General Fund. While the project is intended to be supported through a combination of General Fund, GOB, and STB financing, the absence of this bill would require greater reliance on bonds or other financing mechanisms.

AMENDMENTS

N/A