

LFC Requester:

Carlie Malone

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

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

Date Prepared: 1/22/26

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: SB 48

Original Correction
Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Sen. Mimi Stewart

Agency Name and Code Number: 305 – New Mexico Department of Justice

Person Writing

Short Title: State Fairgrounds District Bonds

Analysis: Megan Veach

Phone: 505-645-5980

Email: Fir.request@nmdoj.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		

(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						

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

This analysis is neither a formal Opinion nor an Advisory Letter issued by the New Mexico Department of Justice. This is a staff analysis in response to a committee or legislator’s request. The analysis does not represent any official policy or legal position of the NM Department of Justice.

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

This bill proposes a new section of the State Fairgrounds District Act, which was proposed and passed in the 2025 legislative session. This new section authorizes and approves the district to issue bonds pursuant to Subsection C of NMSA 1978, Section 6-35-7, in an amount not to exceed \$92 million in net proceeds of the \$500 million in net proceeds authorized by the same statute. The bonds would be secured by the gross receipts tax distribution and the gaming tax distribution.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

Note: if additional operating budget impact is estimated, assumptions and calculations should be reported in this section.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues are noted in this proposal.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

No performance issues are noted in this proposal.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The original bill created the State Fairgrounds District Act, designating the state fairgrounds district as a political subdivision of the state. The district is governed by a seven-person governing board, which must conduct itself in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. The seven-person board is responsible for managing all revenues and indebtedness based on property tax, GRT and gaming tax. Sections 7 and 8 addressed bonds, and bonds are not to exceed \$500 million in net proceeds, and can only be issued after approval by both the Board of Finance and the legislature.

The current proposal would also require approval by the State Board of Finance and the legislature, although not stated in the section itself.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo

AMENDMENTS

N/A