

LFC Requester:

Scott Sanchez

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: 1/23/26

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: SB 50

Original Correction
Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Sens. Antonio Maestas,
Crystal Brantley, and Rep.
Pamelya Herndon

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

Short Title: Law Enforcement Training
Requirements

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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:

SB 50 makes amendments to the Law Enforcement Training Act, NMSA 29-7-1 *et. seq.* and the Public Safety Telecommunicator Training Act, NMSA 29-7C-1 *et. seq.* addressing training requirements for law enforcement and public safety telecommunicators.

1. SB 50 makes amendments to subsections of the Law Enforcement Training Act and Public Safety Telecommunicator Training Act, by removing mandatory in-service training for law enforcement and telecommunicators for the following statutes:

Section 1: NMSA 29-7-4.1 Domestic Abuse Incident Training

Section 2: NMSA 29-7-4.2 Child Abuse Training

Section 3: NMSA 29-7-4.4 Law Enforcement Training, with the subjects of crisis management and intervention, mental health issues, de-escalation, peer-to-peer intervention, stress management, racial sensitivity, reality-based situational training, use of force training

Section 4: NMSA 29-7-7.3 Ensuring Child Safety Upon Arrest

Section 5: NMSA 29-7-7.4 Missing Person and Amber Alert Training

Section 6: NMSA 29-7-7.5 Interaction with Persons with Mental Health Impairments

Section 7: NMSA 29-7-7.7 Tourniquet and Trauma Kit Training and Distribution

Section 8: NMSA 29-7C-4.1 Public Safety Telecommunicator Training, with the subjects of crisis management and intervention, mental health issues, de-escalation, peer-to-peer intervention, stress management, racial sensitivity, reality-based situational training, and telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction to bystanders

2. **Section 9:** 29-7C-7 In-Service Telecommunicator Training would be amended to give authority to the law enforcement standards and training council to determine in-service telecommunicator training requirements. Currently, such authority is given to the law enforcement certification board. It also would remove mandated in-service training on certain topics, again, giving discretion back to the law enforcement standards and training council.

3. **Section 10:** NMSA 29-11-5 Sexual Crimes Prosecution and Treatment Program would be amended to make the corrections department, rather than the criminal justice department, as a training program designer, with other state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as community-based victim treatment programs, to develop a plan to train local law enforcement officers, criminal justice and medical personnel in the ability to address sex crimes. It would also amend NMSA 29-11-5(D) by removing a requirement of advanced training through in-service programs for commissioned officers and sex-crime investigators.

4. **Section 11:** NMSA 29-20-3 Police Training, would be amended to give the law enforcement standards and training council, rather than the New Mexico law enforcement academy board, the mandate to develop and incorporate training, as well as a program of instruction, for law enforcement in the safe initiation and conduct of high speed pursuits. It also would remove a mandated in-service training requirement for four hours of instruction on high-speed pursuits, giving discretion back to the law enforcement standards and training council.

5. **Section 12:** NMSA 31-18B-5 Hate Crimes – Law Enforcement Training, would be amended to give the law enforcement standards and training council, rather than the New Mexico law enforcement academy board, the mandate to develop and incorporate a two-hour training for law enforcement concerning the detection, investigation and reporting of crime motivated by hate. The law enforcement standards and training council would also be tasked with developing the course of instruction and objectives regarding such crimes. Lastly, the amendment would remove a mandated in-service training requirement for instruction on crime motivated by hate, giving discretion back to the law enforcement standards and training council.

6. **Section 13:** The effective date is January 1, 2028.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

As written, SB 50 removes annual in-service training for law enforcement officers and telecommunicators. Removing that training may pose public safety risks. Some critical areas (domestic violence, mental health, de-escalation, and child safety) require ongoing refreshers because best practices change often. Without regular training, officers and dispatchers may rely on outdated methods, resulting in questionable outcomes.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo

AMENDMENTS

N/A