

LFC Requester:

Esquibel, RubyAnn

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: 1/25/2026

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: SB 72Original Correction Amendment Substitute Sponsor: Harold PopeAgency Name
and CodeSecretary of State - 370

Person Writing

Analysis:

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Title:FORMER LEGISLATORS AS
LOBBYISTSPhone: 505-479-2626 Email: lindsey.bachman@sos.nm.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

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

SB 72 prohibits legislators from accepting compensation as lobbyists for a period of two years after their service, prohibits employers of lobbyists from compensating former legislators as lobbyists for two years after service and requires a lobbyist to file a statement at the time of registration stating whether or not they have been a legislator in the past two years. Upon receipt of a registration that indicates such recent legislative service, the bill further requires the secretary of state (SOS) to notify the lobbyist's employers. It also requires the penalties within the Lobbyist Regulation Act apply for violations of its provisions.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The provisions found in Section 2 of SB 72 would require that existing lobbyist registration processes be modified to allow for the submission of a statement from the filer as to whether or not the lobbyist has served as a state legislator in the past two years. A new notification would also need to be generated by the Secretary of State to that lobbyist's employers.

If passed, these technical requirements could be incorporated in the scoping and development of a new ethics e-file system that is already underway.

The SOS will have additional administration duties associated with system maintenance, education and compliance. The full funding of the SOS's budget request is necessary to keep up with the volume of work associated with all of the statutory duties supported by the office.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

By adding additional reporting requirements, the SOS will have additional administration duties associated with education, compliance, and enforcement. The full funding of the SOS's budget request is necessary to keep up with the volume of work associated with all of the statutory duties supported by the office.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The attorney general is responsible for investigating alleged violations of the Lobbyist Regulation Act, Chapter 2, Article 11 NMSA 1978. Any person who knowingly violates any of the provisions of the act is guilty of a misdemeanor shall be fined up to \$1,000.

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The Secretary of State's Office will continue to administer lobbyist ethics filings in accordance with state statute.

AMENDMENTS