

LFC Requester:

Henry Jacobs

### 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: 1/27/2026

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: SB 103

Original  Correction   
Amendment  Substitute

Sponsor: Sen. Harold J. Pope, Jr.

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

Short Title: Unlawful Interference with Aircraft

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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)**

	<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>FY28</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>						

(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 103 amends NMSA 1978, Section 64-1-22 and repeals NMSA 1978, Section 64-1-23. The proposed amended Section 64-1-22 changes the substance, felony designations, and penalties for Unlawful Interference with the Flight of Aircraft.

**Section 1** amends the crime of Unlawful Interference with the Flight of Aircraft.

Subsection A adds the act of directing a laser at an aircraft to the definition of the crime. It also adds the language “interfere with” other aircraft and “including personnel on board the aircraft.” It adds that the crime will be a fourth-degree felony.

Subsection B escalates the crime to a third-degree felony for a second and subsequent offense.

Subsection C escalates the crime to a third-degree felony if commission of the crime results in harm to a person requiring medical treatment that was on the aircraft.

Subsection D defines the word “laser.”

**Section 2** repeals Section 64-1-23 NMSA 1978.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

None apparent.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None apparent.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None apparent.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

None apparent.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None.

**ALTERNATIVES**

None.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

Status quo.

**AMENDMENTS**

None.