

LFC Requester:

Henry Jacobs

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: 1.26.26

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: SB 103Original Correction Amendment Substitute Sponsor: Harold PopeAgency Name NM Department of Homelandand Code Security & EmergencyNumber: Management-79500Short UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCEPerson Writing Amber GonzalesTitle: WITH AIRCRAFTPhone: 505-487-6692 Email Amber.gonzales@dhsem.nm.gov**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT****APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|---------------|------|------------------------------|------------------|
| FY26 | FY27 | | |
| \$0 | \$0 | NA | NA |
| | | | |

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

| Estimated Revenue | | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|-------------------|------|------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| FY26 | FY27 | FY28 | | |
| \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | NA | NA |
| | | | | |

(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 103 amends NMSA 1978, Section 64-1-22 to revise and clarify the offense of unlawful interference with the flight of an aircraft. The bill specifies that unlawful interference includes discharging a firearm, launching an object or projectile, or directing a laser at an aircraft with the intent of striking, interfering with, or colliding with the aircraft or endangering personnel on board.

This bill also establishes a graduated penalty structure by classifying a first offense as a fourth-degree felony and elevating the offense to a third-degree felony for subsequent violations or when the conduct results in harm to a person on board the aircraft requiring medical treatment. Additionally, SB 103 consolidates provisions related to unlawful interference with aircraft flight into a single statutory section to improve clarity and consistency in enforcement.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

DHSEM is unaware of the fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB 103 updates the existing statute to address modern forms of interference with aircraft, including the use of laser devices. Clarifying prohibited conduct and associated penalties may improve enforceability and deterrence for actions that pose risks to aircraft operations and public safety.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SB 103 does not directly impact DHSEM.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DHSEM does not anticipate additional administrative responsibilities as a result of this bill. Enforcement and adjudication would continue through existing law enforcement and judicial processes.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

SB 103 repeals outdated statutory language and consolidates enforcement provisions, which may improve statutory clarity and reduce ambiguity for prosecutors and courts.

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS