

LFC Requester:

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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: 1/28/26 **Bill Number:** SB0152 **Original** **Amendment** **Substitute**

Short Title: HIGH-SPEED INTERNET AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM

Sponsor: Sen. Padilla

Name and Code Number: HCA 630

Person Writing: Louis Ortiz

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
\$0.0	\$0.0	\$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	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 152 (SB 152) seeks to modernize New Mexico’s telecommunications framework by establishing a Low-Income Telecommunications Assistance Program (LITAP) to ensure affordable access to telecommunications services to eligible low-income households in NM. While the Public Regulation Commission (PRC) is the primary implementing agency, the bill assigns coordination and data-support responsibilities to the New Mexico Health Care Authority (HCA). It authorizes the PRC to promulgate rules to govern the program.

The bill provides for LITAP to be funded by changes to the State Rural Universal Service Fund. Household eligibility for the program’s reduced telecommunications rates would be based upon the household meeting eligibility criteria for one or more need-based assistance programs administered by HCA (i.e. Medicaid, SNAP, TANF-NMWorks, or LIHEAP); inclusion in the household of a student covered by the final judgment in the *Yazzie/Martinez* lawsuit; or, meeting eligibility criteria for the federal lifeline program or its successor.

The bill makes the sharing of confidential information with the PRC by the Public Education Department and HCA subject to state and federal laws and regulations governing the sharing of confidential information.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 152 requires HCA to provide data to assist the PRC in identifying eligible individuals to receive assistance from the low-income telecommunications assistance program.

The cost for HCA’s coordination and data-support responsibilities under the bill will need to be determined through more detailed requirements-gathering and discussions with relevant stakeholders.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Regulations promulgated by the PRC will need to carefully navigate issues related to client confidentiality, privacy, and consent to share information.

The ITD Data Services team will need to engage with the PRC to determine the precise requirements of the data sharing aspects of the bill. This will include careful analysis of the data security aspects of the interchange process.

None for ISD

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None for ISD

Data interchange with outside entities is always complex and has to be done carefully to ensure proper data security and accuracy. The ITD Data Services team will need to play a large role and they have multiple existing projects underway.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for ISD

ITD Data Services team will need to work with the PRC on the data interchange aspects of the bill.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None for ISD

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None for ISD

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None for ISD

ALTERNATIVES

None for ISD

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo

AMENDMENTS