

LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS – 2026 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)3.0

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 5 FEB 2026 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SB305 Original X Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Linda Lopez **Agency Name and Code:** 790 – Department of Public Safety
Short: Juvenile Corrections Fund Uses **Person Writing:** Dale Wagoner
Phone: 575-629-2803 **Email:** Dale.wagoner@dps.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
NFI	NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(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	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(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- Senate Bill (SB-305) In general, this bill pushes research-based interventions and risk reduction services for delinquent children and youth, rather than “correction”.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal implications to DPS

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues to DPS

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SB-305 opens more opportunities for young people to access community-based services and expands the scope of the Juvenile Community Connections Act (JCCA). However, it leaves out some important issues, especially when it comes to dealing with serious violent crimes committed by juveniles. The bill does not add any new ways for juvenile courts to handle violent offenses, including those involving guns or repeat violence. This means the system still can’t properly supervise or hold accountable teens who commit severe crimes just before they age out of the juvenile system, even as these kinds of offenses are becoming more common across the state.

The bill also treats all offenses the same way, without extra protections or special rules for the most serious crimes, like second-degree murder or other violent felonies. It removes many of the checks that are used to help decide which kids needed stricter supervision, and instead depends mainly on general, research-based programs. By not recognizing the unique risks of extreme violence, the bill could result in high-risk teens being placed in community programs that are not prepared to handle them and exposing teens with less serious offenses to teens with high-risk offenses, putting public safety at risk.

SB-305 does not tackle the rise in gun violence among young people, even though more juvenile crimes involve firearms, such as teens taking guns to school. It doesn’t include any special rules, extra supervision, or specific programs for kids who commit gun-related offenses. Since guns are a big reason for serious injuries and deaths among youth, leaving out any focused response makes it harder for the bill to seriously address the most dangerous kinds of youth violence.

Another concern for DPS about SB-305 is that it does not let juvenile courts pause, or "toll," their authority when a young person runs away from supervision or skips out on court-ordered services. Without this power, teens can dodge consequences simply by avoiding the system until they age out, which weakens court orders and the interests of victims. The bill misses a key chance to fix this issue and make juvenile supervision stronger.

Finally, even though the bill allows more young people to join these programs and gives agencies more freedom to run or fund them, it doesn’t set up clear ways to hold people accountable. SB-305 does not include strong enforcement tools or consequences for serious rule breaking. This lack of balance between more services and less accountability makes the whole juvenile justice system weaker and raises concerns about safety, trust, and credibility.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No administrative implications to DPS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

No conflict, duplication, companionship, or relationship to DPS

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No technical issues to DPS

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No substantive issues to DPS

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives implications to DPS

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo will Remain

AMENDMENTS

No amendments at this time.