

LFC Requester:	Ruby Ann Esquibel
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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: <u>1/23/2026</u>	<i>Check all that apply:</i>
Bill Number: <u>SM 1</u>	Original <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correction <input type="checkbox"/>
	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute <input type="checkbox"/>

Sponsor: Sens. Natalie Figueroa, Harold Pope

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

Short Title: UNIFORM REDISTRICTING CRITERIA

Person Writing Analysis: Anjana Samant

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

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

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:

The bill is a Senate Memorial urging the U.S. Congress to pass legislation that would establish “uniform redistricting criteria and uniform process standards for the United States house of representatives apportionment and to prohibit states from midcycle redistricting unless court-ordered.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

2026 SJM 1 is a duplicate.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Article 1, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution states that “*The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.*” This Elections Clause has been interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court as giving states primary responsibility for redistricting, subject to Congress’s ability to create federal rules.

ALTERNATIVES

None

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo.

AMENDMENTS

None.