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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2026 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

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

Click all that apply:

Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date Prepared: 2026-02-12
Bill No: SM28

Sponsor: Pinto, Shannon D. / Pope, Harold
STUDY GUN VIOLENCE

Agency Name and Code NMHED
Number: _____
Person Writing: Gallegos, Brittany
brittany.
Phone: 5056706478 **Email:** gallegos@hed.nm.gov

Short Title: _____

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	Fund Affected

FY26	FY27	FY28	or Nonrecurring	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure 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

BILL SUMMARY

Senate Memorial 28 (SM28) requests the Crime Victims Reparation Commission to convene a statewide crime prevention task force to study gun violence in New Mexico and develop recommendations to address the issue. The task force would include representatives from multiple state agencies and stakeholders, including the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED). The task force would be charged with studying the root causes and contributing factors of gun violence, reviewing existing state and federal laws, examining data gaps, and identifying evidence-based strategies to reduce gun violence and enhance public safety.

NMHED’s analysis of this bill focuses on the higher education implications of the proposed legislation. Additional insight may be obtained from other agencies’ analyses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SM28 does not contain an appropriation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SM28 cites data from Everytown for Gun Safety indicating that New Mexico has the third-highest overall gun death rate in the country and that the state’s gun death rate increased by forty-five percent (45%) between 2015 and 2024, outpacing the national increase of eighteen percent (18%). The memorial further references findings that firearms are a leading cause of death for children and teens and that gun violence imposes significant economic costs on the state.

From a higher education perspective, gun violence has implications for campus safety, student well-being, and institutional operations. Public colleges and universities serve students from communities across the state, including areas identified in the memorial as experiencing elevated gun violence and limited law enforcement response capacity. Increased exposure to violence or threats of violence may affect student retention, mental health service demand, and institutional emergency preparedness planning.

Participation of NMHED on the proposed statewide crime prevention task force would provide an opportunity to represent the higher education sector in discussions related to prevention strategies, public education efforts, and coordination across state agencies.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to SM28, NMHED would be tasked with assigning a representative to this task force, which would take administrative time.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If SM28 is not enacted, there would be no formal mechanism to convene the proposed statewide crime prevention task force, and coordination among state agencies, including NMHED, to study gun violence and develop comprehensive recommendations may not occur in a structured or unified manner.

AMENDMENTS

N/A