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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Saavedra DATE TYPED: 3/11/03 HB HJR 27/aHGUAC
 SHORT TITLE: 90 & 60 Day Legislative Sessions, CA SB _____
 ANALYST: Chavez

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
			See Narrative		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Secretary of State (SOS)
LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HGUAC Amendment

The House Government and Urban Affairs Committee Amendment proposes to leave in tact the current sixty-day session for odd-numbered years and to change the even-numbered legislative sessions to forty-five days. Expenditures of the Legislature would roughly increase by \$1.5 to \$2 million for the increase of the legislative session in even-numbered years from thirty days to forty-five days.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Joint Resolution 27 amends Article 4, Section 5 of the Constitution of New Mexico to provide for ninety day sessions in odd-numbered years and sixty day sessions during an even-numbered year.

Significant Issues

Currently, regular sessions in odd-numbered are 60 days and regular sessions in even-numbered years are 30 days.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation for the current 60-day session is \$6.9 million. The expenditures included in this appropriation include per diem for senators and representatives, mileage traveled by members of the senate and house of representatives, salaries and employee benefits of senate and house or representative employees, expenses of the senate and house of representatives not itemized above and for session expenses of the legislative council service, the joint billroom and mailroom and joint legislative switchboard. The appropriation for the last 30- day session was \$3.9 million.

Expenditures of the Legislature would roughly increase by \$2.5 to \$3 million dollars for the increase of the legislative session in odd-numbered years from sixty days to ninety days and for the increase of the legislative session in even-numbered years from thirty days to sixty days. Thus, the total increase would roughly be between \$5.5 and \$6 million.

An estimated non-recurring cost to the general fund of \$32.0 is also expected because of the cost to the Secretary of State for advertising and printing to place an item on the ballot. This non-recurring cost will likely be realized in FY05 since the next general election is in November 2004 unless a special election is called prior to the next general election for that purpose.

CONFLICT

House Joint Resolution 27 conflicts with Senate Joint Resolution 10 and Senate Joint Resolution 4. Senate Joint Resolution 10 proposes to amend Article 4, Section 5 of the Constitution of New Mexico pertaining to time, length, and items considered during legislative sessions. Senate Joint Resolution 4 proposes to amend Article 4, Section 5 of the Constitution of New Mexico to allow regular sessions of the legislature to be extended for up to seven days upon joint certification to the governor by the speaker of the house and the president pro tempore of the senate.

FC/yr/njw