

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Garcia, M.H. DATE TYPED 01/25/05 HB 161

SHORT TITLE Distances for Negligent Firearm Use SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Ford

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
			Minimal		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)  
Department of Public Safety (DPS)  
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)  
Public Defender Department (PD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 161 changes the definition of negligent use of a deadly weapon. It provides that a firearm may not be discharged within 450 yards of a dwelling or building without the owner's permission. The current law sets the distance at 150 yards. Violation of negligent use of a deadly weapon is a petty misdemeanor.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

New laws and amendments to existing laws have the potential to increase caseloads in the courts, thus requiring additional resources to handle the increase. The exact caseload increase is indeterminable at this time.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

This may result in additional cases being referred to the District Attorneys and the judiciary, thereby increasing administrative costs.

The AOC notes there will be a minimal administrative cost for statewide update, distribution, and documentation of statutory changes.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The Public Defender Department notes that this may jeopardize shooting ranges.

EF/yr:lg