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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Larranaga DATE TYPED 1/31/05 HB 253

SHORT TITLE _____ SB _____

ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION

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

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 253 requires all newspapers of general circulation published in New Mexico to print in one issue of the newspaper, upon request and at no charge, an obituary notice not exceeding a single column, one inch in length.

Significant Issues

HB 253 will reduce the revenues to newspapers since they will be required to print short obituaries at no charge. Currently they are receiving fees for printing most obituaries.

The Santa Fe New Mexican currently charges \$20.85 for a one inch obituary and counts on this as a source of revenue. Smaller papers charge less, but they are probably more dependent on this source of revenue.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No Fiscal Impact

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Who will enforce this bill?

How will the public be informed of its right to a free obituary?

Does this bill include weeklies?

DW/yr