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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/18/08

SPONSOR Komadina LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Revise County Classifications SB 6

ANALYST Propst

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 6, Relating to Counties; Revising the Population Accounting Basis for Classifying Counties, amends current language for the classification of counties and the regulation of the salaries of elected county officials; the amendment seeks to utilize the most current annual population data or estimate available from the US Census Bureau, instead of the official decennial census.

SB 6 also amends the date salaries will be fixed for two years from January 1, (the year determined) to July 1, (the year determined).

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

DFA reports that salaries of county officials are determined by county classification. Sandoval County is estimated to be over the 100,000 mark since 2004 so it would be reclassified.

SB 6 passage will require a \$6 to 8 thousand dollar raise per official in Sandoval County this census cycle. Valencia and McKinley will surpass the 100,000 person mark between FY 2010-2020.

	A' County	B' County	Difference
A. county commissioners	\$29,569	\$22,832	\$6,737
B. treasurer	\$65,501	\$57,265	\$8,236
C. assessor	\$65,501	\$57,265	\$8,236
D. sheriff	\$68,308	\$59,699	\$8,609
E. county clerk	\$65,501	\$57,265	\$8,236
F. probate judge	\$28,820	\$20,024	\$8,796
G. county surveyor	\$22,358	To be Determined	

(Note: The above data came from 2007 NMSA 1979 4-44-4.1. Amounts are not in \$1000's.)

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

DFA notes that SB 6 seeks to amend Section 4-44-1 NMSA 1978, classification of counties for salary purposes. Current language regulates county classification by utilizing "the last official census" from the US Census Bureau. However, the official census is done once every decade. So even if the population of a county grew over the classification limits, the classification would remain until the next census. Both 'A' and 'B' class counties, are defined by having a full assessed valuation of \$75 million. The difference between them is the 100,000 population mark.

By converting to the use of annual population data and estimates, 'B' counties on the borderline can have their classification updated faster.

At present, the amendment will only affect Sandoval county, but Valencia and McKinley counties are also expected to reach the magic 100,000 population necessary to be upgraded to A between 2010 and 2020. SB 06 will cause them to be reclassified sooner than 2020 (a Census year).

The change from Jan 1 to July 1 is to keep with the published population estimates which are issued on July 1.

Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER)  
Revised Population Projections for New Mexico and Counties

As of July 1...

County	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
NEW MEXICO	1,826,280	1,970,983	2,112,986	2,251,319	2,383,116	2,507,548	2,626,553
Bernalillo	558,437	595,954	631,839	666,114	698,832	729,750	759,000
Catron	3,567	3,829	4,063	4,275	4,459	4,616	4,752
Chaves	61,453	63,295	64,864	66,311	67,591	68,560	69,251
Cibola	25,683	26,753	27,681	28,479	29,157	29,732	30,231
Colfax	14,230	14,765	15,234	15,625	15,890	16,021	16,026
Curry	45,085	46,059	46,973	47,723	48,190	48,322	48,168
De Baca	2,241	2,270	2,289	2,293	2,296	2,295	2,296
Dona Ana	175,524	197,410	218,523	238,044	255,057	270,761	286,741
Eddy	51,736	53,514	55,274	56,948	58,514	59,908	61,066
Grant	31,083	32,462	33,769	34,920	35,886	36,758	37,657
Guadalupe	4,696	5,010	5,304	5,555	5,748	5,887	5,989

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Harding	828	805	780	754	726	697	676
Hidalgo	5,929	5,875	5,799	5,716	5,624	5,515	5,378
Lea	55,490	55,108	54,551	53,709	52,556	51,121	49,417
Lincoln	19,585	21,798	23,792	25,556	27,100	28,466	29,715
Los Alamos	18,359	18,720	19,114	19,574	20,060	20,494	20,749
Luna	25,189	28,638	32,206	35,888	39,512	42,963	46,328
McKinley	75,072	81,484	88,163	95,044	101,750	108,316	114,854
Mora	5,205	5,704	6,205	6,694	7,137	7,526	7,862
Otero	62,553	64,851	67,018	68,896	70,501	71,981	73,348
Quay	10,142	10,114	10,030	9,888	9,659	9,343	8,986
Rio Arriba	41,307	43,132	45,058	46,953	48,630	49,975	50,996
Roosevelt	18,075	19,117	20,197	21,238	22,159	22,985	23,773
Sandoval	90,775	108,538	126,294	144,37	162,409	179,998	197,182
San Juan	114,272	121,445	128,592	135,497	142,074	148,315	154,403
San Miguel	30,249	32,513	34,746	36,876	38,847	40,612	42,190
Santa Fe	129,936	143,987	158,624	174,400	191,403	208,801	226,012
Sierra	13,355	15,065	16,723	18,328	19,857	21,301	22,672
Socorro	18,165	19,802	21,421	23,000	24,493	25,864	27,137
Taos	30,154	32,651	35,097	37,400	39,442	41,191	42,678
Torrance	17,029	19,523	21,690	23,475	24,979	26,318	27,479
Union	4,177	4,280	4,365	4,439	4,507	4,563	4,619
Valencia	66,699	76,512	86,708	97,330	108,064	118,593	128,922

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