

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 Munoz **ORIGINAL DATE** 01/27/11
LAST UPDATED 02/03/11 **HB** _____
SHORT TITLE Official State Necklace **SB** 109/aSPAC
ANALYST Baca

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

Tourism Department (TD)

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SPAC Amendment

The Senate Public Affairs Committee inserts “Native American” in the bill’s title and in front of the term “Squash Blossom” thereby identifying the necklace with its Native American heritage.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 109 proposes adopting the squash blossom as the official state necklace.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill has no fiscal impact. The only costs that might be incurred relate to updating the list of state symbols, an activity which occurs periodically.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

If adopted, the squash blossom will join the 32 other symbols associated with the state such as the state song, state tree, state gem, state ballad, state bilingual song, state animal and state cookie.

The Tourism Department comments that:

Squash blossoms are silver-and-turquoise necklaces considered by many people to be iconic and premier examples of Navajo jewelry. Most squash blossoms today have turquoise or other stones set in silver along with the silver beads.

The Native American history and heritage remain a major reason visitors come to New Mexico. The mystique of New Mexico's 22 American Indian tribes is extremely powerful. The Navajo, Apache and Pueblo cultures all call New Mexico home. Their distinct arts and crafts, unique languages, colorful dances, and cultural stories and traditions have been passed down through the generations and are intrinsic to the Land of Enchantment. The designation of the squash blossom as the state's official necklace would enhance the efforts of the state and its tribes in their promotional efforts.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The squash blossom will not become one of the state symbols.

lrb/bym