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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/28/11

SPONSOR Cisneros LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Soil & Water Conservation Commissioner SB 524

ANALYST Haug

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HB 504

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Agriculture (NMDA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 504 amends 73-20-28 NMSA 1978, to require Senate confirmation of the six appointed members of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC). Six of the appointed members must be supervisors currently serving in an elected position on a Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) board. One supervisor from each district would be appointed by the Governor from a list of candidates submitted by the districts to the NMDA director, who would solicit comments regarding the candidates from the president of the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts before submitting the list to the Governor.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 524 contains no appropriation and has no fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The NMDA reports:

Commission appointees would be confirmed by the New Mexico State Senate.

Supervisors serving in elected positions on a local soil and water conservation district (SWCD) board would be eligible to serve on the SWCC. However, appointed SWCD

supervisors would not be eligible to serve on the SWCC due to the fact that the SWCC is responsible for the appointment of those supervisors. This avoids conflict of interest.

DUPLICATION

Senate Bill 524 and House Bill 504 are duplicates

GH/mew