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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/25/13
 SPONSOR Varela LAST UPDATED 02/09/13 HJM 23/aHBIC
 SHORT TITLE Study Telecommunications Regulation SB _____
 ANALYST Chabot

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	TBD					Legislative Funds

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HBIC Amendment

House Business and Industry Committee amendment to House Joint Memorial 23 changes to first resolution to review and consider changes in statutes and regulations affecting telecommunications carriers that “may be” needed instead of “are” needed.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Joint Memorial 23 requests the Legislative Council direct the appropriate interim Legislative committee to hear testimony and receive recommendations and consider changes in statutes and regulations affecting all telecommunications carriers to ensure a regulatory environment where competitors have an equal opportunity to compete in the marketplace without undue regulatory burdens. Testimony and recommendations should come from the Public Regulation Commission, the Attorney General and representatives of the telecommunications industry.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding would have to be included in the appropriate interim Legislative committee’s budget request.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Telecommunications is a rapidly evolving industry and currently different sized carriers are regulated differently or some are not regulated. It is in the public interest for the state to respond to the changes in the industry and review the disparate regulations and regulatory burdens to ensure widespread availability of services at affordable rates in urban and rural New Mexico.

GAC/svb