

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 and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/16/15

SPONSOR SCORC LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Public Peace, Health, Safety & Welfare SB 678

ANALYST Jorgensen

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16	FY17		
0	0	0	Recurring	Road Maintenance and Public Transit Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Transportation (DOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

The Senate Corporations and Transportation Committee substitute for Senate Bill 678 creates the non-reverting “Road Maintenance and Public Transit Fund” to be administered by DOT. Use of the new fund is limited with 95 percent directed to “maintenance of state transportation infrastructure projects” and 5 percent directed to the “operation of public transit systems operated by county and municipal governments and regional transportation districts.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 678CS does not appropriate funds or direct any new or existing tax revenues to the fund. This bill creates a new fund and provides for continuing appropriations. The LFC has concerns with including continuing appropriation language in the statutory provisions for newly created funds, as earmarking reduces the ability of the legislature to establish spending priorities.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

DOT states that inserting “bus capital and” after “for” on page 2, line 11 would increase the flexibility of any money subsequently directed to the new Road Maintenance and Public Transit Fund and allow DOT to address the greatest needs of more local transit systems.

CJ/bb