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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

		ORIGINAL DATE	1/29/2016	
SPONSOR	SPAC	LAST UPDATED	HB	

SHORT TITLE Qualifications for Sheriff

SB 203/SPACS

ANALYST Rogers

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	Recurring	None

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

<u>Responses Received From</u> Attorney General's Office (AGO)

<u>Responses Not Received From</u> New Mexico Association of Counties New Mexico Municipal League

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) Substitute for SB 203

The SPAC substitute for SB 203 removes the requirement included in the original bill that established a minimum age for sheriffs and disqualification on the grounds of having been convicted of a felony.

The substitute also sets the qualifications for persons seeking to be elected or appointed to the position of county sheriff, including five years professional law enforcement experience to include military law enforcement experience, must be a resident of the state for one year and of the county for which the person is seeking to be elected or appointed sheriff, must hold a certificate attesting to completion of a basic law enforcement training program pursuant to Section 29-7-6.1 NMSA 1978, and must not have been recalled from public office.

Senate Bill 203/SPACS – Page 2

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None noted.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Currently, state statute does not include any requirements for candidates for sheriff. Creating baseline qualifications will help ensure that candidates for the position have relevant training and experience to help them be effective in the position.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

In regards to the amendment, the AGO points out that SB 203 provided that a person seeking to be elected or appointed sheriff must be a resident of both the state and the county for which the person is seeking to be elected or appointed sheriff for at least one year.

In the committee substitute, "one year" modifies only "a resident of the state" and not "of the county". Therefore, under the committee substitute, a person who is a resident of the state for one year but resident of the county for which the person is seeking to be elected or appointed sheriff for less than one year meets the residency qualification for the position of sheriff in that county.

TMR/jle/jo