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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Stefanics ORIGINAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Study Community Solar Project Development SM 122

ANALYST Martinez

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	FY18	FY19	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		See Fiscal Impact				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

N/A

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 122 requests that the Public Regulation Commission (PRC) convene a task force to develop recommendations for legislation that will support community solar projects planned by local governments, political subdivisions or state post-secondary educational institutions and to facilitate the acceptance and use of electricity generated by these projects by utilities and electric cooperatives.

The task force will include members of utility companies, electric cooperatives, energy advocacy groups, conservation groups, the New Mexico Municipal League, the New Mexico Association of Counties, the renewable energy industry and other interested stakeholders.

The task force will report its recommendations to the appropriate interim committee by July 2018.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The PRC will be responsible for creating the taskforce, which will take time and effort of current staff; they will need to reprioritize daily job functions to devote time to the task force. PRC is currently facing an operating budget strain that has required the agency to implement a hiring freeze, including critical positions such as lawyers, engineers, and an economist. PRC staff is

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handling vacancies by one FTE at times performing the duties of multiple positions. SM122 may add to the strain of the PRC staff.

The multiple agencies included on the task force will need to use current travel and per diem operating budget to cover expenses that will be incurred for meetings.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The Construction Industries Division within the Regulation and Licensing Department regulates the solar industry, and should be considered when developing the task force specifically relating to this industry.

JM/jle