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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR White ORIGINAL DATE 1/23/18
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Autonomous Vehicles in NM SJM 3

ANALYST Jorgensen

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY18	FY19	FY20	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 3 (SJM 3) requests the NMDOT to create and lead an Autonomous Vehicle Committee (Committee) to review current and developing technology for autonomous vehicle (AV) operations, and existing state policy and statutes relevant to operation of AVs. The committee will include at least one member from NMDOT, the Department of Public Safety, the Taxation and Revenue Department, the Department of Information Technology, the Economic Development Department, and Public Regulation Commission. In addition, the committee may include other individuals or groups at the discretion of NMDOT.

The committee is to solicit comments from a wide spectrum of public and private stakeholders and present a report to the appropriate legislative interim committee at its final 2018 meeting. The report is to include recommended statutory changes and administrative policies and programs that may be needed to allow the sale and operation of AVs in New Mexico while ensuring public safety.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The committee may have minimal costs for meeting, however, NMDOT did not estimate these costs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMDOT states that if SJM 3 is passed, the committee will likely recommend changes to Chapter 66, NMSA 1978, to address such matters as enforcement of traffic laws for AVs, the addition of pertinent definitions and amendments to existing definitions, safety inspections for AVs, and insurance, title and registration requirements for AVs.

In addition, the processes, forms, applications, and procedures that agencies use to manage licensing, registration, insurance, title, and inspections may be affected and thus may need to be modified.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to NMDOT, implementing the provisions SJM 3 will require the coordinated efforts of various agencies, which will entail establishing new roles and responsibilities for agency staff and may place increased demands on staff resources.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

NMDOT notes that without legislation similar to SJM3, the introduction of AVs in New Mexico will be delayed. This could impact not only the use of AVs in the State but may impact interstate traffic as well, since all of the states that border New Mexico currently have legislation in place to allow AV use.

CJ/sb