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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Hochman-Vigil ORIGINAL DATE 2/13/14
 LAST UPDATED _____ HB 245
 SHORT TITLE Mobility Limitation License Plate SB _____
 ANALYST Gaussoin

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total				78.0	Nonrecurring	TRD-MVD operating

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB206
 Relates to HB248 and SB189

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)
 Governor’s Commission on Disabilities (GCD)
 Department of Health (DOH)
 Department of Public Safety (DPS)

No Responses Received

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)
 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
 Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 245 amends Section 66-3016 NMSA 1978, license plates for persons with significant mobility limitation, adding a subsection requiring the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) to design a license plate “element” denoting mobility limitation that could be added to other special registration plates if requested by vehicle owners who qualify for both designations. The requestor must meet all requirements for fees and qualifications to obtain the special registration plate, but there is no additional cost for the mobility limitation design.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of design and implementation of a specialty plate is passed on to the requesting entity, which is required to pay for an initial order of 100 plates. Total cost is \$600: \$100 for design and \$500 for the initial order of 100 plates. MVD takes on the continuing costs of production.

Under the bill, new entities would need to design and implement two plates – one in the standard design and one with the limited mobility element, doubling those costs. More significantly, MVD would have to absorb the design and production costs for the estimated 130 existing plate types. Total cost is estimated at \$78 thousand – \$600 per design multiplied by 130 plates.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

While a parking placard authorizes an individual, whether driver or passenger, to park in a handicap spot, a license plate issued to a person with a significant mobility limitation does not. If a vehicle does not have a handicap placard in its window, even if the plate has a wheelchair symbol on it, law enforcement officers can issue a citation.

A license plate design element takes the space of one plate character. Customers will need new plate numbers for plates with the mobility impaired symbol.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

TRD did not provide an analysis for this bill but doubling the number of specialty license plates could increase administrative responsibilities.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB206 is a duplicate.

HB248 makes it unlawful to block a parking space designated for those with limited mobility.

Senate Bill 189 would require the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) to issue specialized vehicle plates to organizations that lease vehicles to those with limited mobility.

HFG/gb