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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Bash/Ferrary/ **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/25/19
Armstrong, D **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** 586
SHORT TITLE Next of Kin Review of Circumstances of Death **SB** _____
ANALYST Gaussoin

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total			NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB297, HB655, and SB496.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM-HSC)

No Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 586 amends the Public Health Act to requires the Board of Medical Investigators to promulgate rules creating a process for the next of kin of an individual whose death was investigated by the office to seek a review of the cause and manner of death.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill has no fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Office of Medical Investigator (OMI) states:

The Office of the Medical Investigator often receives requests from a decedent's next-of-kin to change the cause or manner of death medical conclusions on a death certificate. The office has informal procedures to address these requests. This bill will formalize the review process for the office to use in responding to these requests and require that the review process be approved by the oversight board for the office.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

OMI would be responsible for developing and implementing the rules. The office indicates it would not create an administrative burden.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

HB297 and SB496 would appropriate \$360 thousand from the general fund to the University of New Mexico for the Grief Services Program of the Office of the Medical Investigator.

HB655 would replace the existing medical investigations enabling law, which is based on a 1950s model. The rewrite includes provisions for next of kin to request a review.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OMI suggests that, on line 7, page 2, "cause and manner" be change to "cause or manner."

HFG/sb