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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Chandler ORIGINAL DATE 3/9/18 LAST UPDATED 3/10/19 HJM 12/HSEIC  
SHORT TITLE Study All-Mail Elections SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST Leger

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

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	*see fiscal implications					

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of HSEIC Amendment

The amendment requests the secretary of state consult with Indian nations, tribes and pueblos; county clerks; New Mexico counties; the New Mexico municipal league; and other relevant stakeholders.

#### Synopsis of Joint Memorial

The House State Government, Elections and Indian Affairs Committee amendment to House Joint Memorial requests the Secretary of State study the feasibility of all-mail elections for New Mexico.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Secretary of State would need to determine if funds and staff resources are available or if an outside contractor should be hired to complete. Either decision will have a minimal impact.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The joint memorial provides many statistics on the current voting process. A study in 2017 polished by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission found that voting by mail increased turnout in local special elections by an average of 7.6/10 percent. Advantages of all-mail elections include voter convenience and satisfaction, financial savings, increased turnout, and improvement of election reliability. Drawbacks include lost ballots, heightened concerns about voter fraud, loss of the level of voter confidence inherent in polling place voting, and reliance on the U. S. postal service.

**House Joint Memorial 12/aHSEIC – Page 2**

The Secretary of State is requested to report findings and recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative committee by December 1, 2019.

JL/sb/gb