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Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (<a href="www.nmlegis.gov">www.nmlegis.gov</a>) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

### FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	Roc	lriguez	ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED	2/4/2019	НВ	
SHORT TITI	LE	Per Diem Rate to F	ederally Set Santa Fe R	ate	SB	302
				ANAL	YST	Jorgensen

# ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$6,000.0	\$6,000.0	\$12,000.0	Recurring	Various Operating

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)
Office of the State Auditor (OSA)
Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD)

### **SUMMARY**

### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 302 increases the per diem rate for public officers and employees from the current rate of \$95.00 for non-salaried officials and \$85.00 for employees per day to the rate established by the federal government, \$123.00 per day for fiscal year 2019. The current state reimbursement for meals is \$30.00 per day in state compared with the federal rate for meals of \$61.00 per day.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Department of Finance and Administration reports that SB302 would increase the mileage and per diem rates by approximately 40 percent. In FY18, the state paid \$15 million in mileage and travel expenses. An increase of 40 percent of this actual cost would be \$6 million for executive agencies. Neither the Public Education Department nor the Higher Education Department provided an estimate for cost increases related to enactment of SB302 so the \$6 million operating budget impact is likely to reflect a minimum cost of implementation.

# **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

DFA notes that per diem rates have not been changed since 2003, resulting in more employees relying on the use of actual cost reimbursement.

# **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

No provision is made for District Attorneys or the Public Defender's Office in the definitions for appropriate agency.

CJ/sb