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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ramos **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/01/19
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** _____
SHORT TITLE Grant County Controlled Substance Seizures **SB** 426
ANALYST Gaussoin

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Related to Senate Bills 427 and 428

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)
 Administrative Office of the Court (AOC)

No Responses Received

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)
 Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 426 appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to the Local Government Division for use during FY20 in the investigation and seizure of controlled substances in Grant County. Any money remaining at the end of the fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY20 shall revert to the general fund

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DPS reports the bill would have no significant impact on the department.

Grant County is one of 17 counties in the designated New Mexico High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NMHIDTA). The Southwest Border HIDTA is a partnership of five regions in New Mexico, West Texas, Arizona and Southern California that coordinate drug intelligence, interdiction, investigation, and prosecution. The federal grant program of HIDTA, administered by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, supports federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies within designated areas. Hidalgo County, a neighbor of Grant County and a NMHIDTA county, received almost \$240 thousand in a HIDTA grant in 2018.

NMHIDTA reports marijuana smuggling, both on foot and by vehicle, is the most significant drug activity in Grant County but trafficking of methamphetamine is also an issue.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bills 427 and 428 appropriate \$50 thousand from the general fund for drug interdiction in Catron and Socorro counties, respectively.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The amount might be too small to make a significant different in state and county drug efforts in the county.

ALTERNATIVES

Grant County could apply for HIDTA or other federal grants.

HFG/sb