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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Neville ORIGINAL DATE 2/20/19  
 LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Equine Care from Horse Rescue Fund SB 557

ANALYST Woods

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM)  
 Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD)

Responses Received From

Livestock Board (NMLB)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 557 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Horse Shelter Rescue fund for expenditure in FY2020.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2020 shall not revert to the general fund.

The nonreverting provision in the bill is due to statute language, which states “The ‘horse shelter rescue fund’ is created as a nonreverting fund in the state treasury.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 77-2-32 NMSA (1978)

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The Horse Shelter Rescue Fund provides for services to rehabilitate and care for horses. There are currently 11 board-certified horse rescue facilities in New Mexico.

Statute language also gives standards for rescue facilities. The requirements are health and sanitary requirements, standards for barns, paddocks, pastures and ranges, qualifications of the facility staff, provision of veterinary care, feeding and watering requirements, transportation and other requirements necessary to ensure the humane care of horses.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

NMLB, which oversees the horse shelter rescue fund, provides the state with regulations pertaining to the abuse and neglect of horses. NMLB is the ultimate authority when it comes to administration of the horse shelter rescue fund, Statute language states “The board<sup>2</sup> shall administer the fund, and money in the fund is appropriated to the board to carry out the intent of aiding horse rescues and homeless horses in the state.”

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

This bill does not mention either the administrative duties of NMLB or the regulations in place for rescue facilities.

## **RELATIONSHIP**

The General Appropriation Act provides for \$6.6 million to be appropriated to NMLB.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

NMLB uses a portion of the funds provided in the General Appropriation Act to fund the horse shelter rescue fund.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

The horse shelter rescue fund will continue to be funded through NMLB without the inclusion of \$500 thousand provided in this bill.

CW/sb

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<sup>2</sup> The New Mexico Livestock Board