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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lopez ORIGINAL DATE 1/25/21  
LAST UPDATED 2/09/21 HB \_\_\_\_\_  
SHORT TITLE Canvassing Boards for Chilili Land Grant SB 68  
ANALYST Glenn

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

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	SEE FISCAL IMPLICATIONS					

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB41

### **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Office of Attorney General (NMAG)

#### No Response Received

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

### **SUMMARY**

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 68 amends the law governing elections for the board of trustees of a land grant-merced to require two appointees and the election judge to serve on a canvassing board and clarifies the qualifications of persons serving as election clerks, judges and canvassing board members.

SB68 amends the law that applies specifically the Chilili land-grant merced so that it is consistent with the provisions governing other land grants-mercedes. These include amendments to defined terms and to provisions governing the powers of the board of trustees, board of trustee elections, election procedures, provisional ballots, canvassing boards, election contests, annual reporting requirements, and questions regarding legal title to land within a land grant-merced.

The effective date of SB 68 is July 1, 2021.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Among the provisions in the existing law that SB68 applies to the Chilili land grant-merced is a requirement that the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty Division of NMAG investigate and decide the outcome of election contests by unsuccessful candidates and qualified land grants-mercedes members. The addition of the Chilili land grant-merced to those that currently file election contests with NMAG would likely have little or no additional impact on NMAG's financial and other resources.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

SB68's amendments to the specific statutes governing the Chilili land grant-merced effectively make it subject to the same provisions that currently govern other land grants-mercedes. See Chapter 49, Article 1 NMSA 1978. This avoids any ambiguity and potential confusion resulting from subjecting particular land grants-mercedes to different and potentially inconsistent requirements.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

SB68 relates to HB41, which allows additional lands partitioned from lands granted by Spain or Mexico to qualify as land grants-mercedes.

BG/al/rl