

LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO:

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov

{Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Check all that apply: Date 1.17.24
Original **Amendment** **Bill No:** HB 101
Correction **Substitute**

Sponsor: Elizabeth "Liz" Thompson **Agency Name and Code** DHSEM-795
Short Title: FIREFIGHTER & EMERGENCY PEER **Number:** _____
Person Writing Matthew Stackpole
Phone: 505-412-9044 **Email** Matthew.stackpole@dhsem.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
	\$500	Nonrecurring	General Fund to State Fire Marshal's Office

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25	FY26		
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: HB 101 allows, “any state, local or regional public fire agency,” to establish a peer support program, which shall have at least one peer support team composed of peer support team members, “who offer peer support services to emergency service providers.”

HB101 states that, “each peer support team member shall complete a training course approved by the state fire marshal’s office.” The training course is required to train peer support team members to provide peer support services for matters that include, “(1) substance use and substance abuse; (2) critical incident stress; (3) grief support; (4) line of duty deaths; (5) serious injury or illness; (6) suicidal thoughts; and (7) workplace issues.” Of note, all communications between emergency service providers and peer support team members are confidential if they are made while the peer support team member is providing peer support services. “An emergency service provider has the right to refuse to disclose, and to prevent another from disclosing, a confidential communication in all civil, administrative or arbitration proceedings, whether or not the emergency service provider is a party to the litigation.” That said, there are certain limited allowances for confidential communications to be disclosed either to a court or to prevent imminent harm or the commission of a crime.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB 101 appropriates \$500,000 from the General Fund to the State Fire Marshal’s Office for expenditure in FY 25 to implement the training course and to train peer support team members. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 25 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Fire Marshal’s Office believes HB 101 to be a very important step in supporting New Mexico’s emergency service providers.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HB 101 provides support to emergency service providers who may be dealing with acute or cumulative psychological stress or trauma arising from their high-stress work environments.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No administrative implications.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

No conflicts or duplications.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No concerning technical issues.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No other substantive issues.

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

To not enact this HB 101 removes a potential tool in helping to prevent the long-term psychological and emotional challenges that firefighters and emergency service providers may face without adequate peer support and resources.

AMENDMENTS

None as of 1.17.24.