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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/01/13

SPONSOR Cervantes LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Unfair Trade Practices Attorney Fees SB 270

ANALYST Soderquist

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

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	NFI	NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Attorney General's Office (AGO)

Public Regulation Commission (PRC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 270 amends the Unfair Practices Act to permit the Attorney General and any attorney with whom the Attorney General contracts to recover fees in a successful action brought under that Act.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None.

### PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None.

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

Currently the Attorney General is unable to retain outside counsel to pursue legitimate claims against actors violating the Unfair Practices Act. Because the Attorney General lacks resources to pursue each such claim in house, the State of New Mexico and its consumers are not compensated for some unlawful acts. The legislation would potentially remedy that problem.

RS/bm