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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/02/16

SPONSOR GarciaRichard/Neville **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** 18

SHORT TITLE County Employee Salary Structure **SB** _____

ANALYST Amacher

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17	FY18		
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$198.7	\$198.7	\$397.4	Recurring	Local Government Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 18 adds a new section to Chapter 4, Article 44 NMSA 1978 to separate full-time and part-time salary limits for H class county elected and appointed officials. HB 18 also allows for a new maximum salary structure for full-time H class officers as the county treasurer, assessor, sheriff, and county clerk. The governing body of an H class county shall designate with whether the office of treasurer, assessor, sheriff or county clerk is part-time or full-time; provided that no range in designation shall take effect until the first day of the term of an elected county official who takes office after the designation is approved. HB 18 has an effective date of July 1, 2016.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to DFA, this potential change in salaries could result in a total increase to Los Alamos county budgeted expenditures of \$198,663 per year if the status of the treasurer, assessor, sheriff, and county clerk were changed from part-time to full-time and maximum salaries were paid.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Section 4-44-14 NMSA 1978 classifies H counties as any county which covers an area of not more than 200 square miles. Los Alamos county is New Mexico's sole Class H county.

Section 4-44-14 sets a maximum for salaries of certain listed elected or appointed county officers for H class as:

- county commissioners \$13,777
- treasurer \$6,889
- assessor \$6,889
- sheriff \$6,889
- county clerk \$6,889
- probate judge \$4,031

HB 18 proposes these current maximum salaries be applied to part-time positions and for full time positions outlines the following:

- treasurer \$65,855
- assessor \$65,855
- sheriff \$68,654
- county clerk \$65,855

HB 18 allows for two positions to remain as part-time, the county commissioners and probate judge.

DFA notes that the full-time salaries proposed in this bill are equal to maximum salaries allowed in B-Over Class Counties, which are designated based on property tax valuation and population. If H Class counties were not designated in statute, Los Alamos county would be a B-Over Class county.

JMA/jle