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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/19
 SPONSOR Munoz LAST UPDATED 2/20/19 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE Max Speed Limit for Certain Trucks SB 359/aSPAC
 ANALYST Jorgensen

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$300.0		\$300.0	Nonrecurring	State Road Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
 Department of Transportation (DOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SPAC Amendment

The Senate Public Affairs Committee amendment to Senate Bill 359 imposes a speed limit of 65 miles per hour for truck tractors with attached freight trailers.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 359 (SB359) amends the Motor Vehicle Code to add a required speed limit of 60 miles per hour for truck tractors with attached freight trailers traveling on New Mexico highways, including interstate highways. The bill forbids the Secretary of Transportation from establishing a speed limit zone greater than 60 miles per hour for these same vehicles, and requires that these vehicles drive on the right side lane except when overtaking another vehicle.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Should SB359 become law, DOT would be required to invest an estimated \$300 thousand to add or replace existing signs to inform drivers of vehicles considered a “truck tractor attached to a freight trailer”

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to data compiled by DOT's Traffic Safety Division, from 2013 to 2017, there has been over 11,000 crashes involving heavy trucks, and 64 heavy truck fatalities on New Mexico highways. Over 1,500 of these crashes involve another vehicle that is travelling in the same direction.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DOT would be required to amend its current signing and striping manual, which describes all requirements for regulatory signage posted on New Mexico highways. In addition, DOT would be required to amend the oversize-overweight load permit and the process and procedures associated with that permit; oversize-overweight load permits currently include a maximum speed limit of 65 miles per hour.

CJ/sb/gb/al