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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/12/19

SPONSOR Martinez, R LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE New Mexico 2020 Census SM 11/aSRC

ANALYST Daly

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total			No fiscal impact			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

The Senate Rules Committee Amendment to Senate Memorial 11 strikes language in the first resolved clause supporting the plaintiffs in the citizenship question lawsuit.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Memorial 11 (SM11) resolves that the Senate support the plaintiffs in the citizenship question lawsuit (challenging the inclusion of that question in the 2020 census) and support a robust outreach effort to New Mexico residents. Those efforts include direct, in-person outreach in multiple languages, and recognizing the need for resources in the form of grants to tribal governments, city and county governments and nonprofit groups to support their outreach efforts in their communities and for computers and navigators and improved public internet access to assist residents in filling out the census survey. SM 11 further resolves the senate support additional outreach efforts to those who are homeless, living in poverty, living in rural areas without internet access and not fluent in English, as well as immigrant families and people of color, along with supporting the development of a strategic communications and engagement campaign to raise awareness of and promote participation in the census. Copies of this memorial are to be delivered to the director of the federal census bureau, the secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, New Mexico’s governor and attorney general, members of the state’s Congressional delegation, the speaker of the U.S. House of representatives, the president pro temp of the U.S. Senate and the president of the U.S.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Adoption of this resolution itself should have no fiscal impact on the state.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the memorial, the state benefits from as much as \$7.8 billion a year in funding for 54 different programs, including Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Pell grants, community development block grants and highway planning and construction. Federal funds for these program are distributed to the state on a per capita basis using census data.

Further, the memorial states that based on Census Bureau estimates, 43 percent of New Mexico’s residents, or almost 900 thousand residents live in neighborhoods designated as hard-to-count. Additionally, it asserts that the state is forty-ninth in the nation in the percentage of households with broadband internet access, leading to additional undercount vulnerability due to the census’ change in methodology to rely on the internet as the primary way for households to respond to the census. The memorial advises that the state loses at least \$50 million in federal assistance each year for every one percent undercount.

MD/al