

LFC Requester:

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

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(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}

Date Prepared: February 26, 2025 Check all that apply:
Bill Number: HB419 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor:	<u>Pamelya Herndon & Alan T. Martinez</u>	Agency Name and Code Number:	<u>Economic Development Department 41900</u>
Short Title:	<u>Correctional Reentry Workforce Development Program</u>	Person Writing	<u>Avelina Borrego</u>
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
	\$13,500.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(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

Amendment Synopsis:

House Bill 419 (HB 419) proposes the statewide expansion of high-quality correctional reentry workforce development opportunities for individuals released from correctional facilities or jails. The bill outlines the provision of intensive parallel case management, peer mentoring, and resource navigation to individuals released from correctional facilities.

These services are designed to reduce recidivism, increase employment longevity, and prevent homelessness.

Synopsis:

House Bill 419 (HB 419) appropriates \$13.5 million from the general fund to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration for the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District for a correctional reentry workforce development program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$13.5 million contained in this bill is a one-time expense from the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2026 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Amendment:

The success of the bill depends heavily on the availability of sufficient funding to support the wide range of services it promises, including workforce development, case management, peer mentoring, and training accounts.

If funding is insufficient or not allocated equitably across regions, some individuals may not have access to the necessary resources. Additionally, there may be disparities in the quality of services offered in different regions.

Clear and consistent funding mechanisms, along with a transparent process for regional allocation based on need, would be critical to ensure that all released individuals have access to the services and support they require.

Availability of high-quality, relevant training programs in all regions may vary, and the programs must be aligned with local job market demands to have a real impact on employment outcomes.

If recidivism is reduced not just in the first year but across a longer span, it will show the lasting

impact of the bill's provisions. If the bill's programs rely on temporary or one-time funding, they may not be sustainable in the long term. Continuous funding from either state or federal sources will be necessary to ensure long-term success. Keeping participants engaged and supported over the long haul will be critical to ensure that the initial successes do not fade.

Original:

House Bill 419 currently lacks sufficient details to ensure clarity on key aspects, particularly regarding the correctional reentry workforce development program itself, which is essential for proper understanding and implementation.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Amendment:

One of the central goals of the bill is to reduce recidivism (the likelihood of reoffending). The success of this bill in terms of recidivism will be heavily influenced by the effectiveness of the services provided, such as case management, peer mentoring, and resource navigation.

Tracking the rate of re-incarceration or rearrest among participants in the program will be essential. A reduction in recidivism rates over time would indicate the program's success in supporting individuals in maintaining law-abiding behavior.

The ability to keep participants engaged in post-release services, including mentoring and job training, can be a key indicator of long-term success.

Success in reducing recidivism may take time to measure, as it requires tracking individuals over an extended period to assess whether they maintain stable employment and avoid re-offending.

The bill aims to improve employment longevity among individuals released from correctional facilities. This means that the success of the workforce development efforts will need to be measured by how well participants secure and retain stable, long-term employment.

The bill's emphasis on preventing homelessness is vital, as housing instability is a significant barrier to successful reentry. The effectiveness of the bill in addressing housing needs will be a key component of its performance evaluation.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Amendment:

The administrative implications for the expansion of workforce development programs for persons released from custody are vast, requiring the development of comprehensive systems for data management, staffing, interagency collaboration, funding disbursement, and performance evaluation. Careful planning, transparent processes, and strong partnerships will be essential for the program's success. Moreover, aligning the program with federal standards, such as WIOA, will help ensure that it meets the needs of individuals while maintaining federal funding eligibility.

Original:

None for EDD. However, the fiscal agent may request Economic Development Department support for various parts of the program implementation.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Amendment:

The performance implications of the bill are multi-dimensional, and its success will depend on various factors such as effective resource allocation, collaboration between agencies, and overcoming barriers to employment and housing. Key performance indicators should focus on reducing recidivism, increasing employment stability, preventing homelessness, and ensuring that training leads to meaningful career outcomes. A strong evaluation and monitoring system, clear data collection practices, and continuous improvements will be necessary to assess whether the bill's goals are being met and how the programs can be improved over time.

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS