LFC Requester:	
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov

(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}

Check all that apply: **Date Prepared**: February 21, 2025

Bill Number: HB 546 Original X Correction Amendment Substitute

Agency Name

and Code Tourism 418

Number: **Sponsor:** Representative Rod Montoya

STATE RACING COMMISSION **Person Writing Short** Novela Salazar, GC

NOMINATING COMMITTEE **Phone:** 5054907185 **Email** novela.salazar@td.nm. Title:

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropr	iation	Recurring	Fund
FY25	FY26	or Nonrecurring	Affected
NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

	Estimated Revenue	Recurring	Fund		
FY25	FY26	FY27	or Nonrecurring	Affected	
NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	

(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	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI

(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

<u>Synopsis:</u> House Bill 546 proposes amendments and new provisions to the Horse Racing Act, modifying appointment procedures, establishing an executive director and introducing a nominating committee.

The bill enacts a new section under the Act creating a new committee responsible for selecting qualified nominees for the State Racing Commission. The committee will consist of nine members with six members appointed by legislative leaders, two members appointed by the governor, and one member appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court. Initial appointments to the committee must be made prior to September 1, 2025.

Under HB 546, racing commission members shall be appointed by the governor from a list submitted by the nominating committee, with the consent of the senate. Members of the commission, and their relatives, must be free of financial interests in a licensee regulated by the commission.

HB 546 further requires the appointment of an executive director, requiring the director have at least five years of supervisory experience in a government gaming regulatory agency and no financial interests in horse racing businesses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

It is unclear what duties or authority are encompassed in the role of the executive director in relation to the commission.

Horse racing is a major attraction in New Mexico and events draw out-of-state visitors who contribute to local economies.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The State Racing Commission is administratively attached to the New Mexico Tourism Department

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None.
TECHNICAL ISSUES
None.
OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES
None.
ALTERNATIVES
None.
WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL
Status Quo.
AMENDMENTS
None.