

LFC Requester:

Emily Hilla

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 01/30/2025

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HJR07

Original Correction
Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. Alan T. Martinez; Rep. Andrea Reeb; Rep. Art De La Cruz; Rep. William A. Hall

Agency Name and Code Number: 305 – New Mexico Department of Justice

Person Writing

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Short Title: No County Sheriff Term

Limits, CA

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

This analysis is neither a formal Opinion nor an Advisory Letter issued by the New Mexico Department of Justice. This is a staff analysis in response to a committee or legislator's request. The analysis does not represent any official policy or legal position of the NM Department of Justice.

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: This joint resolution proposes amending Art. 10, Section 2(D) of the New Mexico Constitution (Section 1). The amendment would remove the current term limits for county sheriffs. Under the current term limits, a person is limited to holding two consecutive four-year terms and then is ineligible to hold any county office for two years after. This amendment, if it passed a voter referendum, would eliminate this term limit for county sheriffs and allow them to serve unlimited terms for the office of sheriff.

Section 2 indicates that the amendment shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election or any special election prior to that date.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill is potentially confusing in that it does not address whether, if someone served in a non-sheriff capacity (e.g., as county commissioner) for two consecutive four-year terms and then wants to run for sheriff, they are precluded from doing so for two years after the expiration of their second term in the non-sheriff capacity. The most likely interpretation under the bill as written is that they would remain ineligible for two years.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

See significant issues.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A.

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo.

AMENDMENTS

N/A.