

LFC Requestor: SANCHEZ, Scott

**2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS**

Section I: General

Chamber: Senate
Number: 1

Category: Memorial
Type: Introduced

Date (of THIS analysis): 2/5/25
Sponsor(s): Shannon D. Pinto
Short Title: GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TASK FORCE

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Section II: Fiscal Impact

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation Contained		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY 25	FY 26		
\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY 25	FY 26	FY 27		
\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-recurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

Section III: Relationship to other legislation

Duplicates: None
Conflicts with: None
Companion to: None
Relates to: None

Duplicates/Relates to an Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: None

Section IV: Narrative

1. BILL SUMMARY

a) Synopsis

Senate Memorial 1 (SM1) requests that the Crime Victims Reparations Commission (CVRC) convene a statewide gun violence prevention task force to:

- Study gun violence in New Mexico, which includes:
 - Root causes and contributing factors of gun violence
 - Identifying evidence-based strategies and policies to reduce gun violence
 - Examine current state and federal laws to identify best practices
 - Promote public education and awareness by engaging with community leaders, law enforcement, health care professionals, and other stakeholders about the risk of gun violence and the importance of responsible gun ownership & storage
- Make recommendations for addressing gun violence in New Mexico
- Report its findings to the interim committee dealing with courts, corrections, and justice issues, the legislative health and human services committee, and the governor.

Composition of the task force will include representatives from the crime victims reparation commission, the public education department, the higher education department, the department of public safety, the department of health, the health care authority, the children, youth and families department, the department of game and fish, the University of New Mexico, Indian Nations, Tribes and Pueblos of New Mexico, pueblo law enforcement and federal and local law enforcement agencies, gun advocates and distributors and anti-domestic violence and sexual assault groups.

Is this an amendment or substitution? Yes No

Is there an emergency clause? Yes No

b) Significant Issues

Firearm deaths in New Mexico

New Mexico (NM) has had one of the highest age-adjusted firearm death rates in the United States (US) over the past two decades. Over the past decade (2011-2022):

- the age-adjusted firearm death rate in NM increased by 84% (from 14.8 per 100,000 population in 2011 to 27.3 per 100,000 population in 2022).
- NM's rank for age-adjusted firearm death rates went from the 10th highest to 3rd highest in the U.S.

- the gap in the age-adjusted firearm death rate between NM and the US doubled from 2011 to 2022. In 2011, NM’s age-adjusted firearm death rate was 45% higher than the US. In 2022, it was 90% higher.

More recent trends in firearm deaths in NM (2019-2023) indicate that:

- The number of firearm deaths increased by 7% between 2019 and 2023. The number of firearm deaths peaked at 562 firearm deaths (in 2021), representing a 19% increase between 2019 and 2021.
- Suicide with a firearm remained relatively stable between 2019 (285 deaths) and 2023 (273 deaths).
- Homicide with a firearm increased by 29% from 158 (in 2019) to 204 (in 2023). The number of homicides with a firearm also peaked in 2021 (224 firearm deaths), a 42% increase between 2019 and 2021.
 - In 2022, there were a total of 550 firearm-related deaths in NM that included 214 homicides, which represents 39% of all firearm deaths in NM (Unpublished data, [NM BVRHS](#)).
 - In 2022, 77.0% (or 214 out of 278) of homicides involved a firearm (Unpublished data, [NM BVRHS](#)).
- Over the past several years, firearms have become the leading cause of death for children and adolescents in the US ([Gun Violence: The Impact on Public Health \(nihcm.org\)](#)).
 - In 2022, firearms were the leading cause of death for children (age 1-18) in New Mexico (Unpublished data, [NM BVRHS](#))

2. PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

- Does this bill impact the current delivery of NMDOH services or operations?
 - Yes No
- Is this proposal related to the NMDOH Strategic Plan? Yes No
 - Goal 1:** We expand equitable access to services for all New Mexicans
 - Goal 2:** We ensure safety in New Mexico healthcare environments
 - Goal 3:** We improve health status for all New Mexicans
 - Goal 4:** We support each other by promoting an environment of mutual respect, trust, open communication, and needed resources for staff to serve New Mexicans and to grow and reach their professional goals

3. FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

- If there is an appropriation, is it included in the Executive Budget Request?
 - Yes No N/A
- If there is an appropriation, is it included in the LFC Budget Request?
 - Yes No N/A
- Does this bill have a fiscal impact on NMDOH? Yes No

4. ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Will this bill have an administrative impact on NMDOH? Yes No

5. DUPLICATION, CONFLICT, COMPANIONSHIP OR RELATIONSHIP

None

6. TECHNICAL ISSUES

Are there technical issues with the bill? Yes No

7. LEGAL/REGULATORY ISSUES (OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES)

- Will administrative rules need to be updated or new rules written? Yes No
- Have there been changes in federal/state/local laws and regulations that make this legislation necessary (or unnecessary)? Yes No
- Does this bill conflict with federal grant requirements or associated regulations?
 Yes No
- Are there any legal problems or conflicts with existing laws, regulations, policies, or programs? Yes No

8. DISPARITIES ISSUES

Firearm Deaths for Children and by Race/Ethnicity in New Mexico

- In 2020, firearms surpassed motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of death for children in the US (under 19 years old). In 2021, firearms remained the leading cause of death for children ([Gun Violence: The Impact on Society \(nihcm.org\)](#)).
 - In 2022, firearms were the leading cause of death for children (age 1-18) in New Mexico (Unpublished data, NM BVRHS)
- Between 2018 and 2022, there were 117 firearm deaths among children aged 0 – 17 in NM, which included 50 suicide deaths and 56 homicide deaths (Unpublished data, [NM BVRHS](#)).
- In NM, between 2019 and 2023, firearm deaths increased by 114% among American Indian and Alaska Natives residents, by almost 40% among Hispanics, and decreased by 11% among non-Hispanic Whites.

9. HEALTH IMPACT(S)

Firearm Deaths in New Mexico

- In 2022, the total annual cost of firearm deaths in NM was \$6.22 billion, representing an annual cost of \$2,943 annually to each NM resident ([CDC WISQARS](#)).
- In 2020, firearms surpassed motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of death for children in the U.S. (under 19 years old). In 2021, firearms has remained the leading cause of death for children in the U.S. ([Gun Violence: The Impact on Society \(nihcm.org\)](#)).
- In 2022, NM had the third highest age-adjusted firearm death rate among all states in the US (26.5 deaths per 100,000 residents) (Unpublished data, [BVRHS](#)), which was 84% higher than the national rate (14.4 deaths per 100,000 residents, age

adjusted) ([Provisional Mortality Statistics, 2018 through Last Week Request Form \(cdc.gov\)](#)).

10. ALTERNATIVES

None

11. WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?

If Senate Memorial 1 (SM1) is not enacted, then the Crime Victims Reparations Commission will not convene a statewide gun violence prevention task force to:

- Study gun violence in New Mexico, which includes:
 - Root causes and contributing factors of gun violence
 - Identifying evidence-based strategies and policies to reduce gun violence
 - Examine current state and federal laws to identify best practices
 - Promote public education and awareness by engaging with community leaders, law enforcement, health care professionals, and other stakeholders about the risk of gun violence and the importance of responsible gun ownership & storage

- Make recommendations for addressing gun violence in New Mexico

12. AMENDMENTS

None