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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

LAST UPDATED _____

SPONSOR Lopez/Pinto/Sedillo Lopez/Hickey **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/6/2025

BILL

SHORT TITLE Revise LFC Membership **NUMBER** Senate Bill 271/ec

ANALYST Leger

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT*

(dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 271

Senate Bill 271 (SB271) revises the membership of the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) to include the chair and a minority member of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (LHHS).

The number of members appointed by the Speaker of the House will decrease from six to five and the President Pro Tempore appointment decrease from seven to six.

The bill also makes title references gender neutral.

This bill contains an emergency clause and would become effective immediately on signature by the governor.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact related to SB271. Sufficient funding is requested and appropriated for the mileage and reimbursement expenses of 16 LFC members to attend LFC meetings statewide.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to statute, LFC shall be composed of 16 members, eight members from the house of representatives and eight members from the senate. The chairmen of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee, House Taxation and Revenue Committee, and the Senate Finance Committee or members of their respective committees designated by each of them from time to

time shall be members. The committee duties include examining laws governing the finances and operation of departments, agencies, and institutions of New Mexico and all of its political subdivisions, including annually reviewing budgets and appropriations requests, reviewing the operation and management of selected state agencies, departments, and institutions, and making recommendations with respect thereto to the Legislature.

LHHS is a permanent joint committee of the Legislature created pursuant to Section 2-13-1 NMSA 1978 and is responsible for studying the programs, agencies, policies, and needs relating to health and human services, in addition to programs and services for children, families, and the aging population.

Each interim, LFC adopts a workplan that includes work on nine policy areas, one of which is health and human services.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The LFC hired 3 FTE in spring 2024 dedicated to healthcare policy, including preparing work products, testimony and attendance of interim committees statewide.

Laws 2024, Chapter 69 (House Bill 2) appropriated \$600 thousand to contract for health policy and related financial research for expenditure in FY25 and FY26.

ALTERNATIVES

The chair and a designated minority member of LHHS could seek additional guest days to attend LFC meetings when discussions related to health and human services and programs and services for children, families and the aging population are being discussed. Per the laws and policy of the Legislative Council, a legislator is limited to five days of attendance of an interim committee meeting of which a legislator is not a member and receive mileage and per diem reimbursement.

JL/hj/SL2