

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the Legislature. LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Sanchez LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/2025
BILL
SHORT TITLE State Bread NUMBER Senate Bill 315
ANALYST Rodriguez

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			

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis Received From

New Mexico Office of the Attorney General (NMAG)

Tourism Department (NMTD)

Cultural Affairs Department (DCA)

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 315

Senate Bill 315 (SB135) establishes the tortilla as the official state bread of New Mexico.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns if enacted, or June 20, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB315 has no fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

There are several types of tortillas, including yellow, white and blue corn; flour; whole wheat; blue corn; and nopal tortillas.

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) provides the following analysis on tortillas:

Declaring the tortilla as the official state bread in statute could generate many different benefits.

The tortilla is a staple of New Mexico cuisine, deeply rooted in the state’s Hispanic, indigenous, and multicultural traditions. By recognizing it as the state bread, it honors centuries-old food traditions and acknowledges its role in our meals at home with our families, in restaurants and in schools.

Just as chile and biscochitos have gained national recognition, officially declaring the tortilla as the state bread reinforces our state’s unique food culture. This distinction can leverage tourism marketing, attracting food enthusiasts and culinary visitors to our state.

New Mexico is the home of many tortilla manufacturers, from small pantry operators to large commercial processors. A state designation could boost demand for locally produced tortillas. Restaurants, bakeries, and grocery stores can use this designation in branding and increase markets, thus improving sales of locally made tortillas and cross selling other products that are typically served with tortillas (e.g., chile, beans, cheese, meats, eggs and more).

Tortillas rely on key agricultural commodities in their production, like wheat and corn, both of which are grown in the state. By increasing demand for locally produced tortillas, one is supporting farmers, millers, and food manufacturers that are an important part of our state’s economy.

Schools and cultural institutions can use this new designation to educate students and visitors about the historical significance of tortillas and their preparations at home, in the restaurant/bakery as well as the commercial processor. Community events, festivals, and culinary competitions featuring tortillas could further be promoted in the New Mexico Department of Agriculture “taste the tradition” or “grown with tradition” program logos.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

- Should SB315 specify what type of tortilla? Or should the bill be inclusive of all tortilla types?
- Are sopapillas considered bread?