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HOUSE BILL 108

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

INTRODUCED BY

Kristina Orteza and Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH; CREATING THE STATEWIDE PUBLIC HEALTH  
AND CLIMATE PROGRAM; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public Health Act is  
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] STATEWIDE PUBLIC HEALTH AND CLIMATE  
PROGRAM.--

A. By January 1, 2026, the environmental health  
epidemiology bureau of the epidemiology and response division  
of the department shall establish a statewide public health and  
climate program.

B. In implementing the statewide public health and  
climate program, the environmental health epidemiology bureau  
shall:

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1 (1) help improve interagency collaboration  
2 focused on health equity, reducing health impacts of extreme  
3 weather and climate change adaptation in New Mexico;

4 (2) assist in the formulation of concrete,  
5 coordinated and cohesive action plans supporting local  
6 communities in building health resiliency to future climate  
7 impacts;

8 (3) provide climate and public health  
9 expertise to assist local community planning and response by  
10 county and tribal public health councils together with the  
11 environmental protection division of the department of  
12 environment and the homeland security and emergency management  
13 department in:

14 (a) making health-informed decisions  
15 about current and future climate impacts;

16 (b) integrating the latest climate and  
17 public health science into local, regional and statewide  
18 emergency preparedness programs; and

19 (c) accessing federal and other funds  
20 for climate adaptation; and

21 (4) facilitate meaningful agency and community  
22 engagement within communities most harmed, or determined by  
23 climate science as most likely to be harmed, by extreme weather  
24 events."

25 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--One million one hundred  
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1 thousand dollars (\$1,100,000) is appropriated from the general  
2 fund to the department of health for expenditure in fiscal year  
3 2026 to support the statewide public health and climate program  
4 within the environmental health epidemiology bureau of the  
5 epidemiology and response division of the department of health.  
6 Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of  
7 fiscal year 2026 shall revert to the general fund.

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