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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ezzell/Tobiassen/Townsend/Thornton/
Paul LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/11/2025

SHORT TITLE Retirement of State Flag BILL
NUMBER Senate Bill 63

ANALYST Chilton

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT*

(dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
NMAG	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 Attorney General (NMAG)

Agency Analysis was Solicited but Not Received From

Secretary of State (SOS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 63

Senate Bill 63 prescribes means by which a New Mexico state flag is to be disposed of when no longer used or useful. Section A of the bill states that it may be destroyed, preferably by burning in a dignified manner, such as a ceremony. Section B of the bill states that the state flag may be retired in a public ceremony directed by military personnel, by a patriotic society, or in a private ceremony.

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

This bill would have no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This bill would enact a way of disposing of used or damaged New Mexico state flags in a way that is similar to preferred means of destroyed damaged or no longer used United States flags.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

“Patriotic society” is not defined. NMAG notes other terms not defined in the bill, including “dignified manner” and “at what point a flag would become ‘no longer useful as an emblem.’”

LAC/rl