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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Maestas LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/25/2025
BILL
SHORT TITLE Research Zoning Matters Speakers NUMBER Senate Bill 446
ANALYST Jorgensen

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY25	FY26	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$200.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis Received From
University of New Mexico (UNM)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 446

Senate Bill 446 (SB446) appropriates \$200 thousand in FY26 to the University of New Mexico (UNM) for the Political Science Department to conduct research on the demographics of individuals who speak at zoning and planning hearings or meetings and city council hearings or meetings on the topics of housing and construction. This will entail data collection and analysis culminating in a report to be submitted to a legislative committee by June 30, 2026. Data collected will include information about age, sex, race, homeownership status, place of birth, and participation of membership in a neighborhood or homeowner association.

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

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY26 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

UNM reports:

This research has been successfully conducted in Massachusetts [which] provides a

replicable template for data collection.

The Department of Political Science is undergoing a strategic planning process in which doing applied policy research relevant to the communities we serve will be an ever-increasing part of our central mission. We, therefore, welcome the opportunity to conduct this research as it will help us to build this capacity that is of critical importance for the future of the department and increases our capabilities in serving the state in policy analysis needs.

CJ/hj/hg/sgs