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F I S C A L I M P A C T R E P O R T

SPONSOR: Picraux DATE TYPED: 02/21/01 HB 478

SHORT TITLE: Requirement Exception for Name Change SB

ANALYST: Hayes

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
			NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)s

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
Attorney General's Office

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HB 478 clarifies some of the language in Section 40-8-2A NMSA 1978 relating to domestic affairs regarding the notice of publication of a "name change" application. The bill also amends this statute to include a new section (B) with additional language regarding exceptions to publication.

40-8-2B exempts the applicant from publishing a notice of name change if such publication would jeopardize the applicant's personal safety. Moreover, the court would seal the record and open the record only for good cause or at the applicant's request.

Effective date of the bill is July 1, 2001.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to the AOC, any fiscal or administrative impact on the judiciary would be proportional to the time required for court clerks to seal Name Change applications and reopen them as needed. New laws, amendments to existing laws and new hearings have the potential to increase caseloads in the courts, thus requiring additional resources to handle the increase.

This analyst does not perceive any "increased caseload" resulting from this bill.

CMH/prr