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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: King DATE TYPED: 02/27/01 HB 679  
 SHORT TITLE: “Public Water Supply System” Defined SB \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANALYST: Belmares

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
			See Fiscal Implications section below.		

Duplicates SB 519

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Environment (DOE)  
 New Mexico Utility Operators Certification Act

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 679 amends the definition of “public water system” in the Utility Operators Certification Act (61-33-1 through 61-33-10 NMSA 1978). The definition is expanded to include suppliers of water for human consumption that use constructed conveyances that are not pipes.

#### Significant Issues

Before the 1996 amendments, the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) defined “public water system” as a system that provided piped water for human consumption. The 1996 amendments to the SDWA expanded the definition of “public water supply” to include systems providing water for human consumption that deliver this water by “constructed conveyances” such as irrigation canals.

The Department of Environment asserts the following: (1) amendment to the New Mexico Utility Operators Certification Act contained in the bill is necessary to track the changes in the federal act; (2) the definition of “public water supply” is central to delineating the scope of many SDWA requirements; and, (3) the change in definition of “public water supply” will also protect the federal grant “set-aside” of approximately \$1,500.0. and allow the Department of Environment retain its primary of the Safe Drinking Water Act program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

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The Department of Environment asserts the change in definition of “public water supply” will also protect the federal grant “set-aside” of approximately \$1,500.0. This federal funding is the state “set-aside” used to develop technical and managerial capacity in local water systems.

### **DUPLICATION**

House Bill 679 duplicates Senate Bill 519.

EB/njw:ar