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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lopez DATE TYPED 2/6/04 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Bernalillo-Albuquerque Merger Elections SB SJR 8

ANALYST Collard

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
			\$40.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Conflicts with HJR 9  
Relates to SB 62, SB 422, SB 438

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Secretary of State  
Attorney General

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Resolution 8 limits the number of elections on the merger of Bernalillo County and the City of Albuquerque to no more than once every eight years at a general election, amending Article 10, Section 11 of the Constitution of New Mexico.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Secretary of State indicates the administrative implications of this bill will cost the agency \$40 thousand.

### ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Secretary of State indicates minimal administrative implications. The office must prepare for a ballot with Spanish and Native American translations, print in one newspaper per county, run radio ads and printing of general election voter guide.

**CONFLICT, RELATIONSHIP**

House Joint Resolution 9 repeals state constitutional procedures that would allow for the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County to merge into a single urban governmental entity. Passage of House Joint Resolution 9 is contingent upon a vote submitted to the public at the next general election or a special election prior to that date.

Additionally, the Department of Finance and Administration notes Senate Bill 62 limits all mailed ballot elections to elections that reorganize local governments. Senate Bill 62 is in reference to the failed November 2003 election to merge the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County.

Other related legislation also includes Senate Bill 422 and Senate Bill 438. Each senate bill creates the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Act. Proposed legislation creates an entity that is a subdivision of the State of New Mexico. The newly created entity would control utility rates and provide for the issuance of revenue bonds for the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County area.

**KBC/yr**