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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	<u>Ortiz y Pino</u>	ORIGINAL DATE	<u>1/24/08</u>	HB	<u></u>
		LAST UPDATED	<u>2/11/08</u>		
SHORT TITLE	<u>Lt. Governor Vacancy Appointment</u>	SJR	<u>8/aSRC</u>		
		ANALYST	<u>Padilla</u>		

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SRC Amendment

Senate Rules Committee Amendment to Senate Joint Resolution provides that 2/3 of the Senate only need to ratify the appointment of the Lieutenant Governor, not both Houses of the Legislature, as previously written.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Joint Resolution 8 proposes an amendment to Article 5 of the Constitution of New Mexico to provide that, in the case of a vacancy in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall fill the vacancy by appointment with the consent of both Houses of the Legislature.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill proposes resolution by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico to amend Article 5 of the Constitution of New Mexico as follows:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 5 of the Constitution of New Mexico by adding a new section to read:

“Whenever there is a vacancy in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall nominate a Lieutenant Governor who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of all members elected to each of the two Houses of the Legislature voting separately and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.”

The bill also asserts in Section 2. as follows:

Section 2. The Amendment proposed by this Resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date that may be called for that purpose.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The consequences of not enacting this bill result in status quo to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico.

JRP/mt:bb