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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/12/09
LAST UPDATED 3/16/09 **HM** 79/aHF1#1

SPONSOR Rodefer

SHORT TITLE Clarify Agency Reports To Legislators **SB** _____

ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		Unknown See Below	Unknown See Below		Recurring	Various

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HF1 #1 Amendment

The House Floor amendment to HM 79 adds a legislator to the list that may specifically direct or request to have reports distributed to legislators.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Memorial 79 requests the New Mexico Legislative Council to write and distribute a briefing to agencies that reviews limits on reports and on the Legislative Council Service's program to distribute reports or executive summaries in print or electronic format on a regular basis to those legislators who request them.

HM 79 encourages state agencies to provide separate executive summaries for their reports and to make the full reports and executive summaries available on the internet in a format compatible with downloading to print.

The memorial further states that, unless a report has been specifically directed to or requested by a legislative agency or committee, state agencies that desire to have reports distributed to legislators provide the Legislative Council Service library with two print copies, as required by Section 2-3-14.1 NMSA 1978, and include the internet address of the posted report.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact.

The results of this study may result in a savings if reports are distributed on the internet.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Section 2-3-14.1 NMSA 1978 provides that state agencies shall not send reports that are in excess of five pages to legislators unless the agencies are responding to a direct request.

The current statute provides for the Legislative Council Service to provide legislators with a compilation of longer reports.

Legislators, nonetheless, receive reams of paper, including paper from agencies, even when the information contained in the reams of paper has not been requested by the legislators.

Legislators do want to have pertinent information but do not want to be inundated with information.

Some agencies seem to be unclear about the limitations of the statute and their responsibilities to keep legislators informed.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

State agencies may have to provide separate executive summaries for their reports.

DW/mt:mc