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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR McMillan ORIGINAL DATE 01/31/14
LAST UPDATED 02/01/14 HB 150

SHORT TITLE Magistrate Judge Candidate Filing Requirement SB _____

ANALYST Jorgensen

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

SUMMARY

House Bill 150 clarifies a provision in Section 35-3-1(C)(1) NMSA 1978 which requires that magistrates elected in magistrate districts with a population exceeding 200,000 in the last Federal census must be attorneys. The bill adds a provision that a candidate in those districts must provide proof that they are a member of the bar and licensed to practice law in New Mexico “at the time of filing a declaration of candidacy” to the county clerk.

The bill will ensure that all persons running for office who are required to be licensed attorneys in fact do have that status.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB 150 does not have a fiscal impact.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The AOC states that HB 150 will not have significant administrative implications for the Judiciary as the AOC already collects evidence of candidates’ personal qualifications required under Section 35-2-3(A) NMSA 1978.

CJ/jl:ds