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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/25/15

SPONSOR Pacheco **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** 438

SHORT TITLE Sheriff Qualifications **SB** _____

ANALYST Malone

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 438 adds a new section regarding sheriff qualifications, to Chapter 4, Article 41 NMSA 1978. The bill establishes the following qualifications for election or appointment as sheriff:

- Be at least twenty-one years of age;
- Have at least seven years of professional law enforcement experience;
- Be a resident of the state and of the county for which the person is seeking to elected or appointed for at least one year;
- Not have been convicted of a felony;
- Have completed a basic law enforcement training program; and
- Have not been recalled from public office.

The bill requires that candidates for election certify by notarized affidavit that they meet the above requirements. A voter may challenge the candidacy of any person seeking nomination on the grounds that they do not meet the above requirements.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None noted.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Currently, state statute does not include any requirements for candidates for sheriff. Creating baseline qualifications will help ensure that candidates for the position have relevant training and experience to help them be effective in the position.

CEM/je/aml