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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Armstrong ORIGINAL DATE 2/23/15
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 464

SHORT TITLE Mobility Limitation License Plate SB _____

ANALYST Malone

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY15	FY16	FY17	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$32.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$32.5	Nonrecurring	TRD-MVD Operating
	\$19.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$19.0	Nonrecurring	TRD-ITD Operating

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Related to HB 103, HB 107, HB 266, SB 97, and HB 77

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 464 amends Section 66-3-16 NMSA 1978, relating to registration plates for persons with significant mobility limitation, to add a subsection requiring the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) to establish a design element that denotes significant mobility limitation and issue that design element on another special registration plate if requested by a person who qualifies for both designations. The requestor must meet all requirements for fees and qualifications to obtain the special registration plate, but there is no additional cost for the mobility limitation design.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

MVD would have to arrange for the design, initial production and storage of an additional 65 special registration plates with the addition of the mobility-impaired wheelchair symbol. The department estimates initial cost would be approximately \$500 per design times 65 special plates, which equals \$32,500.

Implementation of the bill will have a moderate impact on the Information Technology Division

(ITD). Necessary changes include:

- MVD 2.0 – Change programming to reflect new plate types – 200 hrs
- MVD mainframe batch - Change programming to reflect new plate types - 140 hrs
- Testing – 40 hrs
- Total Hours – 380 at \$50/hour = \$19,000

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

TRD notes that the mobility-impaired wheelchair symbol on a vehicle's registration plate is not necessary in order to park in a handicapped space or to receive free parking in a metered space or garage where such free parking is allowed.

Additionally, many law/parking enforcement officers ignore the registration plate and look instead for a mobility-impaired parking placard on the basis that a vehicle with a wheelchair symbol on the plate does not necessarily have a mobility-impaired driver or passenger at any given time.

RELATIONSHIP

Special plate bills currently pending in this Legislative Session, all of which would require an additional mobility-impaired version, include: HB 103 (Autism Awareness), HB 107 (Junior Colleges), HB 266 (Freemasons) and SB 97 (NM Amigos). Another related bill, HB 77, would allow for issuance of a mobility limitation (HP) registration plate to an organization that owns or leases a vehicle used primarily to transport persons with significant mobility limitations.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The new MVD IT system, Tapestry, will be in production beginning May 25, 2015. Since the effective date of this bill is July 1, 2015, there is a possibility that the changes cannot be implemented into production by the effective date.

CEM/je/bb