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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Baldonado ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/2016
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 301/aHAFC
SHORT TITLE Archive Legislative Webcasts SB _____
ANALYST Leger

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$5.0 – 200.0	\$20.0 – 40.0	\$5.0 – 240.0	Recurring	*See Fiscal Implications

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to:

House Bill 1 (Feed Bill)
House Bill 311 (Transfers & Reversions to General Fund)
House Resolution 1 (Archive House Webcasting)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Amendment

The House Appropriations and Finance Committee amendment for HB 301 strikes the proposed Section of 2-3-8 NMSA 1978, and replaces it with a new section calling for archiving of audio and visual recordings of all legislative floor sessions and meetings that are webcast or recorded by the legislature for five years. The recordings are to be made publicly available as soon as practicable after adjournment of the session or meeting.

The effective date of the act is January 1, 2017.

The amendment does not alter the fiscal impact of the bill.

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 301 adds a new section to Section 2-3-8 NMSA 1978, requiring Legislative Council Service (LCS) to archive and make available audio and visual recordings of legislative meetings to its website and makes minor grammatical changes.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

To effectively and efficiently carry out the provisions of the bill, adequate information technology storage space must exist. Research indicates year one to be the most costly at approximately \$5.0 – 200.0 thousand for adequate storage, servers, interface and minor website redesign. The cost range is so large because the cost of housing files externally is likely to cost less than housing files internally. A minimum recurring cost of approximately \$20.0 – 40.0 thousand may exist for additional storage in subsequent years. HB 1 does not appropriate funding to cover the expenses and may have to be absorbed in the operating budget of LCS. The question was raised about the use of legislative fund balances to cover this expense. LCS would require an appropriation to expend cash balances to cover this cost.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HB 301 adds section “G” to Section 2-3-8 NMSA 1978 (Purpose and Duties of Legislative Council), “to prepare and archive audio and visual recordings of all legislative meetings that are webcast by the legislature. The legislative council service shall make the archived recordings publicly available and easily accessible on the New Mexico legislature website. Each recording shall be added to the legislature website as soon after the adjournment of the public hearing as practicable”.

RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 1 (Feed Bill)

House Bill 311 (Transfers & Reversions to General Fund) – transfer/sweep of \$1 million in legislative cash balances to restore general fund operating reserve balances and support spending for FY16 and 17. This is a companion bill to the General Appropriation Act of 2016 (House Bill 2).

House Resolution 1 (Archive House Webcasting)

JLL/jo