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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/2016

SPONSOR McSorley LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Research Redistricting Commission SM 83

ANALYST Leger

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total				*see fiscal implication		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to:
House Bill 1
House Joint Resolution 1

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

Senate Memorial 83 requests that the Legislative Council create an interim committee to research the creation of a Redistricting Commission.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The creation of any interim committee could result in those members receiving mileage and per diem for attendance. Costs could be minimized if The commission was tied to an existing interim committee that met in conjunction with other interim committee meetings.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Every 10 years, following the census, the Legislature redistricts the following: NM House of Representatives, NM Senate, State Board of Education, state's congressional districts, the Public Regulation Commission and select magistrate court districts. New Mexico has a history of encountering problems during the redistricting process; in 2001 and 2011 litigation has exceeded \$9 million.

According to SM 83, a Redistricting Commission may be less politically divisive and may create a more trust worthy process.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Thirteen states including Arizona, Colorado and California have commissions responsible for planning state legislative districts. If the memorial is passed, the mentioned states may provide expertise in creating a Redistricting Commission.

RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 1 – Laws 2016, Chapter 1, appropriates \$500 thousand from legislative cash balances to the Legislative Council Service for phase 1 and 2 of the 2020 census redistricting data program to perform such functions as are necessary to prepare for redistricting in 2021. The appropriation is authorized for expenditure in fiscal years 2016-2020.

House Joint Resolution 1 – Independent Redistricting Commission -- The House Government, Elections, and Indian Affairs Committee Substitute for House Joint Resolution 1 proposes an amendment to Article 20 of the Constitution of New Mexico to create a 5-member Redistricting Commission (commission), established by August 1st of the year of each Federal Decennial Census, with the authority to redistrict the Congressional, Legislative and statewide officer districts (i.e. the PRC). HJR 1 provides that no more than 2 commissioners shall be members of the same political party.

JLL/jle