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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Dow
ORIGINAL DATE 2/14/17
LAST UPDATED 3/01/17
HB 218/aHLEDC

SHORT TITLE Litter Control and Landscape Beautification
SB _____

ANALYST Martinez

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	FY18	FY19	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0.0	\$(30.0)	\$(30.0)	\$(60.0)	Recurring	Litter Control and Beautification Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Tourism Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Labor and Economic Development Committee Amendment

The House Labor and Economic Development Committee amendment inserts a new subsection defining, “regional tourism district.” His subsection includes definitions for the central region, north-central region, northeast region, northwest region, southeast region, and the southwest region.

The amendment, on page 3, strikes all of subsection A, and inserts a new section describing the New Mexico clean and beautiful advisory committee and how they are appointed.

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 218 amends, repeals and enacts sections of the Litter Control and Beautification Act. The bill abolishes the thirty-two member litter control council, establishing in its place a seven member New Mexico clean and beautiful advisory committee, and abolishes the mandate to design, print and distribute ‘Dusty Roadrunner’ litter bags.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

While there are no appropriations in HB218, the Tourism Department states that abolishing the statute to design, print and distribute litter bags to two hundred and twenty-nine locations around New Mexico is expected to reduce costs to the New Mexico clean & beautiful program by \$30,000 annually.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The New Mexico Tourism Department addresses the following significant issues:

House Bill 218 streamlines the former litter control council, which consisted of thirty-two members, by replacing it with the seven members New Mexico clean and beautiful advisory committee. This smaller and more focused committee, consisting of knowledgeable community members, will allow for more actionable and immediate input in the areas of anti-litter and beautification. Local voluntary anti-litter and recycling campaigns evaluated by the New Mexico clean and beautiful advisory committee shall improve in-state pride and community engagement.

House Bill 218 also provides a more direct line of communication between committee members and the tourism department. An ad hoc committee of seven community members is more flexible and responsive to change than the previous thirty-two member council, the makeup of which had to undergo numerous approvals and adhere to specific and restrictive structures. The New Mexico clean and beautiful advisory committee is a proscriptive committee which will have an advisory role in grant processes for department-administered grants, and will act in an advisory capacity to the department's "Keep New Mexico True" coordinator.

The abolishment of the department-supported "Dusty Roadrunner" litter bags program eliminates redundancies, as local affiliates are already providing their own litter bags in many instances. Furthermore, due to staffing limitation, providing department-sponsored litter bags to sixty-nine motor vehicle departments and one hundred sixty game and fish license vendor locations places burden on the tourism department, as well as the agencies receiving the litter bags, to monitor and renew inventory.

Department funds not allocated to the design, printing, and distribution of "Dusty Roadrunner" litter bags can be spent on awareness campaigns designed to encourage participation and community involvement in anti-litter programs throughout the state. Local agencies that wish to provide litter bags at the local level may request reimbursement through grant funding from the clean and beautiful program.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HB218 requires the committee to provide an annual report on the effectiveness and impact of the litter control and beautification programs. This annual report can provide the Tourism Department with data on the feasibility, cost, and appropriateness of a statewide community appearance index, or alternative technique for the evaluation of highway litter. This index, and any community engagement implications, can be incorporated by the Tourism department into its performance metrics.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The coordination with local business and industry organizations and local governments in anti-litter efforts, as well as encouragement of local voluntary anti-litter and recycling campaigns will require administrative oversight by the Tourism Department. This will be fulfilled by the department's "Keep New Mexico True" coordinator. This department coordinator will also be the primary point of contact for the committee-appointed litter control coordinator. The position of the "Keep New Mexico True" coordinator has already been established at the Tourism Department.

JM/al/jle