

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Any fiscal impact on the judiciary would be proportional to the enforcement of this law and commenced prosecutions. As a proposed new criminal provision, SB268 would require the courts to afford persons charged under this law all relevant constitutional protections. In most instances this will mean multiple court dates and numerous court filings, both of which take significant financial and human resources to process. In the event of a conviction, the possibility of appeals at both the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court will demand even greater resources over a longer period of time.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to AOC analysis:

SB 268 has been introduced in response to an uptick in coyote killings in New Mexico. In 2015, 566 coyotes were intentionally killed with firearms in New Mexico, and 69,000 were killed nationally.

OAG analysis notes there appears to be no legal or constitutional barriers to enacting SB268.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 267 adds coyotes to the list of fur-bearing animals required to be managed by DGF.

JA/jle/al/jle