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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Alcon ORIGINAL DATE 01/27/22
LAST UPDATED _____ HM 24
SHORT TITLE Develop Plan to Save Adoptable Dogs and Cats SB _____
ANALYST Hitzman

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY22	FY23	FY24	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response Received

New Mexico Counties (NMC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 24 requests New Mexico county managers and other interested parties convene a task force to develop a comprehensive plan and set a goal to save all lives of healthy, adoptable dogs and cats in sheltering systems no later than December 31, 2025.

The memorial also resolves New Mexico county managers work in collaboration with animal shelters and welfare organizations to develop a plan to reach this goal, with the plan to be presented to the appropriate interim legislative committee by May 1, 2022.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The memorial does not make an appropriation. The potential impact of HM24 would be dependent on the success of the taskforce in saving the healthy, adoptable dogs and cats in animal shelters and animal welfare facilities, as the individual facilities would likely see a reduced cost for euthanasia and potentially increased revenues from adoption fees. However, the fiscal impact is indeterminate at this time.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The city of Albuquerque notes on their [webpage](#) that the shelters are currently at capacity, urging individuals to speak with an Animal Welfare representative prior to surrendering a pet. The city of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County currently has six shelter locations and the city's webpage also notes eight additional regional shelters. Performance of shelters may be improved with reduced burden of housing healthy, adoptable animals if HM24 results in increases in adoption rates. However, shelters may also experience an increase in capacity if animals are no longer being euthanized, requiring the facilities to house animals for a prolonged period of time.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Implementing a plan for saving adoptable dogs and cats would likely reduce administrative burden on the animal shelters and animal welfare facilities across the state, if successful. However, it is unclear whether the intention is to "save" the animals through adoption or simply to create a no-kill community, as defined by "saving 90 percent or more of the cats and dogs coming through the sheltering system" which could strain the capacity of shelters and animal welfare facilities for housing animals that would have otherwise been euthanized.

JH/al/acv