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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Romero, A/Lane/Martinez, J/Nibert LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 3/6/2023
SHORT TITLE Official Chile Song BILL NUMBER House Bill 510
ANALYST Dick-Peddie

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact	No fiscal impact			

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files
Youtube

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 510

House Bill 510 memorializes Lenny Royball’s “Red or Green” as the official state chile song.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect June 16, 2023, (90 days after the Legislature adjourns) if signed into law.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bill 510 has no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Lenny Roybal (aka “Coach”), writer and performer of the proposed state chile song, is a staple in the New Mexico Roundhouse. Throughout legislative sessions, Royball, formerly a basketball coach at Santa Fe high, can be found patrolling the halls greeting members and performing original songs. Roybal has not publicly stated when he first wrote “Red or Green”, but he has been performing it at the state capital for several years, and mentioned the song in an interview with the Santa Fe Reporter as early as 2005¹.

¹ <https://www.sfreporter.com/2005/07/27/sfr-talk-double-dribble/>

Creating “Red or Green” as the state chile song would bring the total number of state songs to five. Existing songs include, the state song “O Fair New Mexico” (Elizabeth Garrett), the Spanish state song “Asi Es Nuevo Mexico” (Amadeo Lucero), state ballad “Land of Enchantment” (Don Cook), state bilingual song “New Mexico—Mi Lindo Nuevo Mexico” (Pablo Mares), and finally, the state cowboy song “Under New Mexico Skies” (Syd Masters). Several states have multiple state songs, including Tennessee which has a grand total of 10 official songs. Though Connecticut’s state song “Yanky Doodle Dandy” mentions macaroni, no other state song is directly food-related.

One performance of the song, with an alternate verse, can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHe90oc6mhY>

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Julia Roberts (mentioned in the song on page 3, line 15) successfully sued an individual in 2000 for creating a website domain with her name. The decision of the court hinged on the individual using the domain name “in bad faith,” not on an existing trademark on the celebrity’s name. Therefore, it is not likely the lyrics of the song would result in similar litigation.

ADP/ne/al