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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Pope LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/1/23
BILL
SHORT TITLE Add Space Force to Military Definitions NUMBER Senate Bill 212
ANALYST Torres, J

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

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

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Attorney General (NMAG)
Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 212

Senate Bill 212 (SB212) amends several statutes to add the term “space force” to existing military definitions and entitlements. The proposed amendment to Section 1-1-5.4(A) NMSA 1978 includes “space force” in the “uniformed-service voter” definition. Section 11-8B-1, Article 2A, NMSA 1978 substitutes US “Chapters” for “Sections.” Section 11-8B-1 Article 2R NMSA 1978 includes “space force” in the “uniformed services” definition. Section 40-10D-2(R)(1) is amended to include the term “space force” within the definition of “uniformed service.” Section 45-1-201(14)(B) is amended to include member of the “space force” in the definition of “emancipated minor.” Section 66-3-303 is amended to include the term “space force” and to correct the statutory citation.

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

Responding agencies did not indicate fiscal implications.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DMA states:

The United States Space Force which was founded in December of 2019, is part of the Department of the Air Force within the Department of Defense. The USSF is responsible for organizing, training and equipping guardians to conduct global space operations that enhance the way joint and coalition forces fight while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives.

This bill adds the Space Force to sections of the statute where the other armed forces are listed for particular benefits or programs including: The Definition of a Uniformed Service Voter, the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, the Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act, definitions within the Uniform Probate Code, and regarding the registration of personal passenger vehicles within the state subject to the provisions of Section 66-3-301 NMSA 1978.

The bill benefits the “space force” by incorporating it into existing military definitions and entitlements.

JT/al/hg/rl