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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Brown LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 1/28/2024
BILL
SHORT TITLE Highway 128 Improvements NUMBER House Bill 231
ANALYST Simon

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY24	FY25	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$300,000.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Relates to House Bill 238

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis was Solicited but Not Received From
Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 231

House Bill 231 appropriates \$300 million from the general fund for improvements and maintenance of New Mexico highway 128 in Lea County and Eddy County. The appropriation would be from FY25 through FY28.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY28 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

New Mexico highway 128 runs from the Texas border about seven miles east of Jal to New Mexico highway 31 near Loving. The highway services a large number of active oil wells and is subject to large amounts of heavy truck traffic. According to NMDOT's website, the department is currently in project development for a design-build project for NM-31 and NM-128. The

department states these highways need pavement improvement, passing lanes and shoulders, better sight-distance, and drainage improvements.

According to NMDOT's online Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, the department is scheduled to put a \$50 million roadway reconstruction project out to bid in October 2024. That project covers 3.2 miles in and around Jal. NM-128 is about 60 miles long. Three additional projects with an estimated cost totaling \$268.7 million are included in the plan as informational, meaning these projects have yet to receive funding.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 231 relates to House Bill 238, which would allow NMDOT to enter into a joint powers agreement with Eddy County for road construction and maintenance on NM-31, from that road's intersection with US-285 to the intersection with NM-128.

JWS/al/ne