

LFC Requester:	Scott Sanchez
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov
(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 1/23/2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB 127 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Jack Chatfield **Agency Name and Code** 790 – Department of Public Safety
Short Title: APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE PURCHASE OF LICENSE PLATE READERS. **Number:** _____
Person Writing Clay Goret
Phone: 505-819-8348 **Email:** Clay.goret@dps.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
NFI	1,000.0	Nonrecurring	General

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
NFI	NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	0	50.4	50.4	100.8	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

House Bill 127 appropriates \$1,000,000 from the general fund to the Department of Public Safety for the purchase of license plate readers. The funds are allocated for expenditure during fiscal year 2026, with any unspent or unencumbered balance reverting to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year. This legislation aims to enhance public safety by equipping law enforcement with technology to monitor and identify vehicles effectively.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Currently, the LPR system being deployed by NMDPS for a two-camera setup costs around \$10,306, which includes one year of software licensing and warranty. The installation cost is about \$30,000, bringing the total cost for each deployment to approximately \$40,306. Based on these figures, this appropriation could fund around 24 two-camera systems, though allocating some funds for licensing may reduce that number by one or two systems.

With the addition of these 24 systems, NMDPS will have a total of about 112 LPR camera systems statewide, which would significantly enhance public safety and DPS operations. The New Mexico Department of Public Safety (DPS) will incur a recurring annual cost of approximately \$50,400 for the maintenance of 24 new license plate reader (LPR) camera systems.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None at this time.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The funding provided in this bill would allow DPS to significantly expand the footprint of our current statewide LPR program. This would allow for the more effective use of law enforcement resources and result in a sizeable increase in the detection of criminal activity on our highways. DPS is very supportive of this bill as it will help improve public safety in the state. Also, law enforcement agencies who possess sharing agreements with DPS will be able to utilize the info for their investigatory purposes as well, which is very beneficial.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None at this time.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

No conflict, duplication, companionship or relationship to DPS.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No technical issues to DPS.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No other substantive issues to DPS.

ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable as no impact to DPS.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo will remain.

AMENDMENTS

NMDPS would respectfully request that the bill language be amended from “*for the purchase of license plate readers.*” to “*for the purchase of license plate readers, including associated software licensing, warranties, and installation costs.*”