

LFC Requester:

Helen Gaussoin

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO**

**[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](http://AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto: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** 2/10/2025 *Check all that apply:*  
**Prepared:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Bill** HB 319 Original  Correct  
**Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ ion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amend Substitute  
 ment \_\_\_\_\_ ute \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor:** Stefani Lord, John  
 Block \_\_\_\_\_  
**Agency Name and Code**  
**Number:** NMDA - 199  
**Person Writing**  
**Analysis:** Jeff Witte  
**Short Title:** Quail as Game Birds  
 & Raising without  
 Permit  
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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

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

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>FY25</b>	<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(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**

Synopsis:

House bill 319 (HB 319) amends Section 17-2-3 NMSA (being laws 1967, Chapter 8, Section 1, as amended) to provide an exception for domestic strains of quail from being considered protected game birds in New Mexico and adds a new section to allow domestic quail to be raised for meat or eggs without a permit.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There would be no fiscal implications to the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA).

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Under Section 17-2-3 NMSA 1978, all species within the family Phasianidae, including quail, are regulated as game species under the jurisdiction of the New Mexico State Game Commission. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) currently requires a permit for all quail species kept in captivity.

There are four native species of quail in New Mexico: Scaled quail, Gambel's quail, Northern bobwhite, and Montezuma quail. Nationally, the Coturnix quail is the most common species of domesticated quail.

NMDA does not have any agency statutes regulating quail products or facilities in New Mexico.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

There would be no administrative implications to NMDA.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

N/A

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

N/A

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES**

N/A

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

If HB 319 is not enacted, all quail species will remain defined as game bird species under Section 17-2-3 NMSA 1978 and NMDGF will maintain current permitting requirements for domestic quail.

**AMENDMENTS**

N/A