

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(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:

HB 321 amends Section 66-8-114, NMSA 1978 as follows:

- Penalizes careless driving as a traffic code misdemeanor. Page 2, lines 1-3.
- If a person commits careless driving and it results in death or great bodily harm of another, it is a criminal code misdemeanor.
- Adds the definition of “great bodily harm.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

None

Note: if additional operating budget impact is estimated, assumptions and calculations should be reported in this section.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

A traffic code misdemeanor is punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a \$300 fine.

A criminal code misdemeanor is punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a one thousand dollars fine.

There have been attempts in the past to make death or great bodily harm by careless driving a felony offense. Presently, it is punishable as a traffic code misdemeanor. Passage of this bill will make it a criminal code misdemeanor as is described above.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Section 66-8-7, NMSA 1978; Section 31-19-1.
See also Section 30-1-12A, definition of “great bodily harm.”

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL
Status Quo.

AMENDMENTS