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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

{Include the bill no. in the email subject line, e.g., HB2, and only attach one bill analysis and related documentation per email message}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

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

Click all that apply:
Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date 2025-02-15
Bill No: HB411

Sponsor: Armstrong, Gail / Dow, Rebecca
Short Title: STATE MINERAL

Agency Name and Code NMHED
Number: _____
Person Writing Chisholm, Mark
Phone: 5052716754 **Email** mark.chisholm@hed.n

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 Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

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

HB411 amends Section 12-3-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1927, Chapter 102, Section 1, as amended) to add Smithsonite as the official state mineral of New Mexico.

The New Mexico Higher Education Department's (NMHED's) analysis of this bill focuses on the higher education implications of the proposed legislation. Additional insight may be obtained from other agencies' analyses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation attached to HB411 and no apparent cost to the state in designating Smithsonite as the official state mineral of New Mexico.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The following information was pulled from Gemini. The question was, "Is Smithsonite somehow symbolic of New Mexico". Here was the response:

"While Smithsonite is found in many places, it does hold a particular connection to New Mexico, especially in certain mining districts. Here's how it ties into the state's symbolism:

- Mining History:
 - New Mexico has a rich mining history, and Smithsonite is found in significant quantities in areas like the Magdalena Mining District, particularly the Kelly Mine in Socorro County. This connects Smithsonite to the state's historical relationship with mineral extraction.
 - The history of Smithsonite in New Mexico is tied to the history of the mining of other valuable minerals found within the state, such as silver and lead.
- Geological Significance:
 - New Mexico's diverse geology creates environments conducive to the formation of minerals like Smithsonite. Therefore, finding good examples of this mineral within the state, shows a part of the states geological make up.
- Mineral Collecting:
 - New Mexico is known for its diverse and beautiful minerals, attracting collectors from around the world. Smithsonite, with its varied colors and forms, is a sought-after mineral, making it part of the state's mineralogical appeal.
- Connection to the Earth:
 - Since New Mexico has a very strong connection to the earth, and the beauty of the earth, Minerals found within the state, become a part of the symbolism of the state.

In essence, while not an official state symbol, Smithsonite's presence in New Mexico reflects the state's mining heritage, geological diversity, and appeal to mineral enthusiasts."

Given the response from Gemini, Smithsonite does seem to be appropriate as a state mineral for New Mexico.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

HB411 is identical to 2023 HB204, which passed the House of Representatives but did not make it through the Senate approval process.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If HB411 is not enacted, New Mexico will not have a state mineral.

AMENDMENTS

N/A