

<b>LFC Requester:</b>	<b>Noah Montano</b>
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**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 Prepared:** 02/21/2025 *Check all that apply:*  
**Bill Number:** HB 544 Original  Correction   
 Amendment  Substitute

**Sponsor:** Rod Montoya & Jenifer Jones **Agency Name and Code:** NM Board of Examiners for Architects/ 40400  
**Short Title:** Expedited Licensure for Out-of-State Licenses **Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Person Writing:** M. Gonzales  
**Phone:** 505-469-8175 **Email:** [Melarie.Gonzales@bea.nm.gov](mailto:Melarie.Gonzales@bea.nm.gov)

**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
NFI			

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

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

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

(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: Relating to Licensure; Providing for expedited licensure for professional and occupational boards.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

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

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES-** House Bill 544 does not conform to the New Mexico Architectural Act aimed at expediting registration. The New Mexico Board of Examiners for Architects (NMBEA) currently enforces expedited licensure for military service members, spouses, and veterans under regulation NMAC Section 16.30.7. Additionally, given NMBEA's critical mission in Health, Safety, and Welfare, the approval process should involve more rigorous consideration of qualifications and other relevant criteria.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS-** Out-of-state registrants do not encounter any issues with our current licensing process and have not reported any such issues to staff. Currently not all out-of-state applicants complete the current licensing process based on their own personal circumstances.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS-** The majority of licensed architects are from out of state and have expressed no concerns with the monthly licensing process. However, if this bill is passed, the Board's staff, which currently consists of just four full-time employees, may need to hire additional full-time staff to manage the increased administrative workload.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP-** Currently, all applicants are reviewed and licensed monthly. Implementing expedited registration would be unnecessary, as permanent licenses are already issued monthly. Out-of-state applicants have previously complimented staff with the swift turnaround time provided by NMBEA.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES-** NFI

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES-** NFI

**ALTERNATIVES-** For consistency, it would be more appropriate, although unnecessary and duplicative, to include any such expedited registration requirement. If proposed section is included, it be more appropriate under NMAC Section 16.30.3.10– Registration through Reciprocity, which addresses out-of-state applicants. Expedited registration through reciprocity, similar to NMAC Section 16.30.7.8, licensure for military service members, spouses, and veterans, Expedited Licensure.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL-** Absolutely none.

**AMENDMENTS**