

LFC Requester:

Emily Hilla

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

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

Date Prepared: 02/21/25

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB 573

Original Correction
Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Reps. Angelita Mejia, John Block, Luis Terrazas, Martin Zamora, and Rod Montoya

Agency Name and Code Number: 305 – New Mexico Department of Justice

Person Writing

Analysis: Michael Kiehne

Short Title: Notice of Voting Eligibility to Non-Citizens

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

(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						

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

This analysis is neither a formal Opinion nor an Advisory Letter issued by the New Mexico Department of Justice. This is a staff analysis in response to a committee or legislator's request. The analysis does not represent any official policy or legal position of the NM Department of Justice.

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

Section 1 prohibits the Secretary of State and all county clerks from sending a notice of eligibility or potential eligibility to register to vote to anyone not a citizen of the United States or a group of persons that includes a person that is not a citizen of the United States.

Section 2 would set the effective date to be July 1, 2025.

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.

None to this office.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Unless if the Secretary or a county clerk possesses a comprehensive citizenship database, it would be very difficult for elections officers to know if a group of individuals includes someone who is not a citizen of the United States. Accordingly, it may be difficult for elections officers to comply with the bill.

In addition, the bill does not contain any enforcement mechanism.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Duplicate of SB 453.

Related to HB 170, which would require identification to register and to vote.

Related to SB 452 and HB 572, which would provide criminal penalties to soliciting noncitizens to register or vote.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo.

AMENDMENTS

None.