

LFC Requester:

Felix Chavez

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: 1/15/25

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HJR2

Original Correction
Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. Matthew McQueen

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

Short Title: Eliminate Pocket Vetoes

Person Writing Analysis: Daniel R. Rubin
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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: House Joint Resolution (“HJR”) 2 proposes to amend the New Mexico Constitution at Article IV, Section 22. If the joint resolution is passed by both chambers and the proposed language is adopted by the voters, the constitutional amendment would eliminate what is colloquially known as a governor’s ability “pocket veto” a bill approved by both houses and presented to the governor within the last three days of that legislative session. Currently, such an approved bill automatically fails if not approved by the governor within twenty days of adjournment of the legislature at the session it was passed. This proposed constitutional amendment would require the governor to veto it, or otherwise it would become law. It would further require the governor to include “an explanation for the veto” when returning it to the legislature. The bill would also reformat Section 1 into four distinct lettered paragraphs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None noted.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None noted.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None noted.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None noted.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None noted.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None noted.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None noted.

ALTERNATIVES

None noted.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo

AMENDMENTS

None proposed.