

LFC Requester: _____

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to 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}

Check all that apply:

Original Amendment _____
Correction _____ Substitute _____

Date Prepared 1/23/2025

Bill Number: SENATE BILL 51

Sponsor: Crystal Brantley; Luis Terrazas
Short SOUTHERN NM
Title: COMMUNICATION

Agency Name
and Code DFA-341

Number: _____

Person Writing Stephen Weinkauf

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|---------------|-------|------------------------------|------------------|
| FY25 | FY26 | | |
| | 3,000 | Nonrecurring | General Fund |
| | | | |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

| Estimated Revenue | | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|-------------------|------|------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| FY25 | FY26 | FY27 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

(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 | | | | | | |

(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:

Senate Bill 51 (SB51) makes an appropriation in the amount of \$3 million dollars to Dona Ana, Hidalgo, and Luna Counties for communication infrastructure including cellular telephone and radio towers.

This bill will go into effect on July 1st.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

This is a one-year appropriation, and any unexpended funds will revert to the general fund at the end of FY26.

Estimated cost of the construction of a radio tower is between \$500,000 - \$1,000,000 and the estimated cost of a cellular telephone tower is \$200,000.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This funding can support emergency communications. Dona Ana County and Hildago County are on or actively transitioning to the State of New Mexico Digital Trunked Radio System (DTRS). The Counties should coordinate with the Public Safety Radio Communications Division at DoIT for any radio tower to be connected to the State's DTRS.

Cell phone towers are typically privately owned. FCC data from 2016 show a total of 236 cell towers within the 3 counties. 29 in Hidalgo, 70 in Luna, and 137 in Dona Ana.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

One year may not be sufficient time for the design, site preparation, and construction of a radio tower.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The DFA Local Government Division will likely issue a portion of the funding to each of the three counties via a grant agreement.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS