

LFC Requester:	SCOTT SANCHEZ
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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}

Date Prepared: 11 FEB 2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SB 329 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Nicholas A. Paul **Agency Name and Code** 790 – Department of Public Safety
Short Title: Recruitment of Child into Gangs **Number:** _____
Person Writing Emmanuel T. Gutierrez
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
NFI	NFI	NFI	N/A	N/A

(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	NFI	NFI	NFI	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

Senate Bill 329 (SB329) would create a new crime of recruiting a child into a street gang that would carry with it a fourth-degree felony if the child recruited is between the ages of 13 and 17 and a third-degree felony if the child is under the age of 13. It defines “criminal street gang” as “an ongoing group, club, organization or association of three or more persons that has as one of its primary purposes the commission of one or more of the criminal offenses described in the Criminal Code.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact to DPS.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues to DPS.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

No performance implications to DPS.

Gangs are responsible for a disproportionate amount of criminal activity, including violent offenses, drug trafficking, and other dangerous behaviors. By targeting the recruitment of children into gangs, this bill addresses one of the root causes of gang proliferation—youth involvement. By disrupting the recruitment pipeline, the bill helps reduce future criminal activity, not only curbing youth crime but also preventing the escalation of gang-related violence in communities. The bill works proactively to limit the growth of gangs before young people are fully integrated into these criminal organizations.

Law enforcement agencies already face significant challenges in combating gang-related crime. This bill strengthens their efforts by providing specific legal tools to counter the recruitment of minors. With clearly defined penalties, law enforcement can pursue charges against gang recruiters more effectively. The ability to charge gang recruiters with specific crimes relating to their recruitment efforts provides a targeted approach that enhances law enforcement's capacity to combat gang activity.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

No administrative implications to DPS.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

No conflict, duplication, companionship or relationship to DPS.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

No technical issues to DPS.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

No other substantive issues to DPS.

ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable as no impact to DPS.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo will remain.

AMENDMENTS

None at this time.