

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 393 proposes a temporary gaming tax exemption for gaming operator licensees located in areas declared as disaster zones due to a wildfire. The exemption applies to gaming operators in areas declared as disaster zones in June 2024 and must be included in the state's tax expenditure budget under Section 7-1-84 NMSA 1978. The exemption will be automatically repealed on July 1, 2029.

The bill is scheduled to take effect immediately due to emergency circumstances impacting the public peace, health, and safety.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The immediate impacts of wildfire cause substantial damage to tourism infrastructure throughout New Mexico regions, including lingering effects on economic impact. The New Mexico Tourism Department (NMTD) has historically committed funds and marketing services to aid in fire recovery, most recently working with Lincoln County and the Village of Ruidoso in an effort to reinvigorate the tourism economy with targeted advertising campaigns.

Tourism-dependent areas impacted by wildfires often see a decline in visitors. By offering a temporary tax exemption, SB 393 could help businesses recover and continue to draw visitors, helping stabilize the local economy and encourage tourism recovery.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Duplicates HB *447, Gaming Tax Exemption in Disaster Area.
Relates to HB 326, Small Business Disaster Relief Tax Credit.
Relates to SB 33, Wildfire Prepared Act.
Relates to HB 191, Wildfire Suppression & Preparedness Funds.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo.

AMENDMENTS

None.