

2019 Legislative Priorities

FOR THE 54th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HB 2 Appropriations

Detention Reimbursement Fund

- Restore funding for the County Detention Facilities Reimbursement Act to the original appropriation level of \$5 million.
- Currently at \$2.3 million.

Prisoner Transport and Extradition

- Create a line item in the DFA budget for \$750,000 to reimburse counties that provide transportation of state prisoners.
- Statute 4-44-18C NMSA requires the state to make such payment.
- Counties should not be responsible to pay for state prisoner extradition.

EMS Funding

- Appropriate \$5 million dollars annually to the Emergency Medical Services Fund in the DOH budget.
- Identify a designated revenue mechanism for fund growth and stability.

Behavioral Health

Require NM HSD to ensure the provision of comprehensive services to adult and juvenile offenders, housed with the department of corrections or in a county detention center, who have a serious mental illness including co-occurring substance use disorders.

- Provide targeted, individualized interventions that address behavioral health needs.
- Connect individuals with resources and services immediately upon release to reduce the likelihood of recidivism, detention, and incarceration, such as supportive housing, public assistance, medical assistance, behavioral health treatment, and employment training.

Tax Reform

NMC strongly believes that counties must participate in all efforts to restructure and reform the state and local tax system.

- NMC supports tax reform efforts that improve economic efficiency, economic development, ease of administration and overall fairness of the state and local tax system.
- NMC opposes legislation that has a significant negative impact on county revenue.

Fire Protection Fund

Remove the State Fire Marshal's Office and Fire Protection Fund from the PRC.

- Ensure stability for critical public safety services by removing the SFMO out from under the auspices of an independently elected regulatory commission.
- Determine an appropriate location for the SFMO now that the OSI no longer resides within the PRC.
- Provide funding consistency and carryover assurances for operations and major purchases.
- Ensure advocacy and communication with fire services statewide.

Forfeiture Act Reform

Address unintended consequences of the 2015 amendments to the NM Forfeiture Act.

- Fix the confusion around abandoned property.
- Provide for reimbursement to local law enforcement agencies for the costs of storage and disposal of seized property.
- Extend due process protections to local DWI vehicle seizures.
- Exclude limited equitable sharing provisions contained in the 2017 and 2018 bills.

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