

HB 2 Appropriations

Detention Reimbursement Fund

Increase the County Detention Facility Reimbursement Act fund to reimburse counties for the cost of housing NM Corrections Department inmates. Currently the NM Legislature appropriates \$5 million. According to the NM Sentencing Commission, the five-year average to house NMCD inmates is \$7.5 million.

Prisoner Transport & Extradition

Create a line item in the NM Department of Finance & Administration budget of \$750,000 to reimburse counties that provide transportation for state prisoners. Statutes require the state to make such payments, however no money has been appropriated to counties for many years. Counties should not be responsible to pay for state prisoner extradition.

Emergency Medical Services

Create a \$10 million line item in the Department of Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bureau budget to assist local government EMS services. Current state appropriations, taxes collected through local GRT increments, and other sources of revenue do not provide sufficient support to local governments to meet community needs, especially in rural areas of the state. EMS services are vital to the health and welfare of New Mexico citizens.

Public Safety Package

Return to Work

Local governments struggle to fill critical public safety positions. Allowing able and willing retirees to return to work would create a pool of qualified applicants to fill essential public safety positions.

Recruitment & Retention

Sufficient numbers of detention staff are essential to a safe and well-operated detention facility which is directly correlated to community safety. A public safety recruitment and retention fund would provide local governments with much needed resources to provide detention services to their communities.

Staffing Crisis in Fire & EMS

Create a \$50 million Fire and EMS fund to support volunteer and paid staff. Many New Mexico fire departments are volunteer, or combination departments and the number of volunteers has greatly declined. Call volume and large events continues to rise in New Mexico.

Courthouse Funding

Create a fund for construction and renovation of state district courthouses.

IPRA Election-Related Records & Data

Clearly define how IPRA relates to election records and data.