

April 7, 2017

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 53

The Honorable Brian Egolf, Jr., Speaker of the House and
Members of the House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Honorable Speaker Egolf and Members of the House:

Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico, Article IV, Section 22, I hereby VETO and return HOUSE BILL 91, as amended, enacted by the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session, 2017.

House Bill 91 reduces funds previously appropriated to Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) projects to fund the extension of hours of operation at the Santa Teresa Port of Entry (Port).

While I fully recognize the value of the Port to our economy and its value for trade with Mexico, and while I support the extension of its hours of operation and the development of our bi-national community of Santa Teresa, I support ongoing efforts to raise funds to support the expanded hours. Taking money from our LEDA program is not the way to do it. LEDA projects are tied to direct job creation. Unfortunately, using those funds for the Port will not directly create jobs, and will ultimately dilute the effectiveness of LEDA. Therefore, this is not the highest and best use of this money.

For these reasons, I veto House Bill 91.

Respectfully yours,

Susana Martinez
Governor

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Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____, 2017

By _____
Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____, 2017

By _____
Chief Clerk of the House