

April 7, 2017

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 60

The Honorable Mary Kay Papen, President Pro Tempore and  
Members of the New Mexico State Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Honorable President Pro Tempore Papen and Members of the Senate:

Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico, Article IV, Section 22, I hereby VETO and return SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 259, as amended, enacted by the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session, 2017.

Domestic abuse incidents are complex and, often, very difficult and emotional for everyone involved. The type of actions that can result in the issuance of a civil protection order run the gamut from trespassing to physical violence and, at times, criminal charges may ultimately be filed – where, rightfully, many of one’s constitutional liberties may be abridged.

Our judges already have the power to prohibit individuals that are subject to a civil restraining order from possessing a firearm—whenever they feel that it is warranted—and I would encourage them to exercise this power whenever the facts and circumstances before them require it.

Because this power already exists in our judiciary, I hereby veto Senate Bill 259.

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 Senate