

April 4, 2019

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 30

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 my authority under Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution, I have vetoed HOUSE BILL 192, as amended (“HB 192”), enacted by the Fifty-Fourth Legislature, First Session, 2019.

I strongly support the provisions of HB 192 that require drivers to pass cyclists at a reasonable speed and while keeping a safe distance of no less than five feet. However, I cannot support the provision added to HB 192 at the last minute which requires bicyclists “to the extent practicable” to avoid riding in the roadway if a separate bike lane or bike path is provided near the roadway. This new provision is ambiguous, and its broad wording may lead to unintended consequences including widely varying enforcement.

Although it is vital that we make our roads safer for cyclists, the ambiguous provision added to HB 192 does not give sufficiently clear guidance to cyclists and law enforcement with respect to what conduct by cyclists is or is not permitted. I urge the Legislature to take up this issue again soon and fix the ambiguities that were fatal to HB 192.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

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Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____ 2019

By _____
Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____ 2019

By _____
Chief Clerk of the House