

April 11, 2025

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 28

The Honorable Javier Martínez, Speaker of the House and
Members of the House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Honorable Speaker Martínez and Members of the House:

I have decided to veto HOUSE TAXATION AND REVENUE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 14, as amended with certificate of correction (“HB 14”). Today, I am exercising my constitutional authority to veto House Bill 14, the tax omnibus, because New Mexicans deserve thoughtful, forward-looking policy—not last-minute dealmaking that delays relief, ignores economic opportunity, and undermines fiscal responsibility.

In a session where the Legislature found time to pass three separate license plate bills and designate an official state bread, it is deeply disappointing that they waited until the final days—indeed, the final hours—of the 2025 legislative session to take up a tax package. Even more troubling is the fact that what ultimately emerged lacked both strategic coherence and fiscal credibility. There was no plan and no preparation for how to pay for the tax relief in this bill. As a result, the Legislature had to delay any meaningful tax relief for working families until Fiscal Year 2027, despite the state sitting on more than \$3 billion in one-time revenues and over 30% in reserves. That is not prudence—it is paralysis.

There are certainly measures contained in HB 14 that I support, such as the first liquor excise tax increase in more than 30 years, gross receipts tax deductions for doctors, and meaningful relief for low- and middle-income families. However, because the vast majority of the changes do not even take effect for two years, there will be another session to take up these issues and I encourage the Legislature to do better.

This bill was thrown together without adequate dynamic scoring, without consultation with my office, and without any clear strategy for how we grow our economy or provide lasting tax relief. It reflects a fragmented thesis and decision-making driven more by political self-interest than public good. New Mexico must build a more diverse, resilient economy—one that expands

opportunity and strengthens our tax base, so we can sustainably fund the services New Mexicans rely on. This legislation fails to do that. Our families deserve better. I look forward to working with the legislature in the interim to craft a responsible, equitable tax package that delivers real relief and invests in the long-term future of our great state.

Because of these issues, and pursuant to my authority under Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution, I have vetoed HOUSE BILL 14, enacted by the Fifty-Seventh Legislature, First Session, 2025.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.
Date: _____ 2025

By _____
Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.
Date: _____ 2025

By _____
Chief Clerk of the House