

March 15, 2001

**SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 15**

The Honorable Richard Romero and  
Members of the Senate  
Executive-Legislative Building  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I have this day VETOED and am returning SENATE BILL 641, as amended, enacted by the Forty-Fifth Legislature, First Session, 2001.

This bill would exclude mental and behavioral health services from the state's managed care program, Salud!. The federal Health Care Finance Administration, acting under existing federal and state laws, recently approved the state's decision to *include* these services in managed care. I will continue to veto legislation that limits our state's flexibility to provide well-managed, cost effective, and successful Medicaid services to New Mexico's needy families.

Sincerely,

Gary E. Johnson  
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR:

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the Senate  
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