

April 8, 2009

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 34

The Honorable Timothy Z. Jennings, President Pro Tempore
and Members of the New Mexico State Senate
State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear President Pro Tempore Jennings 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 BILL 588, which was enacted during the Forty-Ninth Legislature, First Session, 2009.

If enacted, Senate Bill 588 would divert money from the Solid Waste Facility Grant Fund for operational and maintenance costs of the Northwest New Mexico Regional Solid Waste Authority. Such diversion would be contrary to existing law and the duly adopted regulations of the Environmental Improvement Board. Monies from the Solid Waste Facility Grant Fund are awarded on a competitive basis, via a process that is intended to ensure an equitable and reasonable allocation of monies. Senate Bill 588 would by-pass this fair and established process. Moreover, the allocation in Senate Bill 588 would give to one entity, without the benefit of scrutiny or analysis, fifty two (52) percent of the currently available funds budgeted in the Grant Fund.

To take monies from the Solid Waste Facility Grant Fund in a manner that is outside the established statutory and regulatory framework is unfair to those other entities - needy counties and municipalities – that participate in the established process.

For these reasons, I VETO Senate Bill 588.

Respectfully yours,

Bill Richardson
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR:

Time: _____ a.m./p.m.

Date: _____ 2009

by:

Chief Clerk of the Senate

Time: _____ a.m./p.m.

Date: _____ 2009

by:

Secretary of State