

March 10, 2010

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 101

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

Dear President Pro Tempore Jennings and Members of the Senate:

I have this day SIGNED:

SENATE BILL 40, which was enacted during the Forty-Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2010.

My decision to sign this bill came after much contemplation and thought. Strong opinions were expressed to me both for and against Senate Bill 40. Our State's citizens recognize the rights created by the Constitutions of the United States and New Mexico but such recognition is also couched with public safety concerns for everyday citizens, business owners, and law enforcement officials alike. It is those concerns that I hope can be allayed by further Executive action.

Under current New Mexico statute and regulation, there is no clear and explicit prohibition on the consumption of alcohol while carrying a concealed weapon. I believe such prohibition is warranted and reasonable. As such, I hereby direct the New Mexico Department of Public Safety to begin the public process of reviewing and revising its regulations to make clear that the consumption of alcohol while carrying a concealed weapon is prohibited. I further invite the Legislature to consider the introduction of legislation in the future that would make such prohibition unequivocal in statute.

As the Governor of a western State, I know well the deep feelings that come with a measure such as Senate Bill 40. My enactment of this law recognizes those feelings and beliefs but must be tempered by the enactment of certain safeguards.

Respectfully yours,

Bill Richardson  
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR:

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. /p.m.      By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2010                      Secretary of State

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. /p.m.      By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2010                      Chief Clerk of the Senate