

March 11, 2026

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 98

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

Speaker Martínez and Members of the House:

In December, I submitted a budget that aligns with the State’s pressing needs and shared priorities. My budget addressed urgent needs in healthcare, economic development, education, public safety, the environment, housing, and early childhood care and development. I extend my appreciation for the House’s leadership in advancing HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILLS 2 AND 3, as amended with certification of correction (“HB 2”), a comprehensive, outcomes-driven framework that strengthens public education, public safety, health care, infrastructure, and natural resources statewide.

Despite these notable accomplishments, I have vetoed sections of HB 2 that improperly attempt to establish substantive law, which is not permitted under Article IV, Section 16 of the New Mexico Constitution. Additionally, I have vetoed parts of HB 2 that attempt to set broad policies, such as imposing reporting or other requirements that do not constitute substantive law. Such broad policies are “better addressed by general legislation and [are] not appropriate for inclusion in the general appropriation bill.” *State ex rel. Coll v. Carruthers*, 1988-NMSC-057, ¶ 13, 107 N.M. 439, 759 P.2d 1380.

Finally, I have vetoed parts of HB 2 that impermissibly intrude into the executive managerial function. I object to provisions in HB 2 that unduly restrict appropriations to specified types of expenditures. These restrictions on agency functions exceed the Legislature’s proper, constitutionally defined role—unduly constraining the Executive’s ability to effectively administer programs to meet the State’s needs, in violation of the distribution of powers established by Article III, Section 1 of the New Mexico Constitution. *See Coll*, 1988-NMSC-057, ¶¶ 11-36.

Accordingly, I this day SIGN and RETURN:

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE  
BILLS 2 AND 3, as amended with certification of correction, enacted during the Fifty-Seventh

Legislature, Second Session, 2026, except the following item or items, part or parts, which I hereby veto pursuant to the authority granted to me in Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution:

On page 19, I have vetoed the words “remainder of the” on line 1, from the word “no” to the end of the line on line 3, all of line 4, and the numbers “41063” on line 5. The contingency attached to the vetoed language is no longer applicable.

On page 71, I have vetoed all of lines 18 through 20. The vetoed language prevents the agency from using the full appropriation to implement the legislative purpose.

On page 87, I have vetoed all of lines 7 through 14. The vetoed language would prevent the timely implementation of the Child Care Assistance Program Act.

Also on page 87, I have vetoed the words “wage increases for” on line 18 and the words “and the wage and career ladder” on line 19. The vetoed language would prevent the timely implementation of the Child Care Assistance Program Act.

On page 93, I have vetoed from the word “Should” to the end of the line on line 21 and all of lines 22 through 24. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 95, I have vetoed all of lines 2 through 5. The vetoed language conflicts with federal legislation and inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 115, I have vetoed all of lines 5 through 7. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 121, I have vetoed all of lines 24 and 25, and on page 122, I have vetoed all of lines 1 through 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 130, I have vetoed all of lines 9 through 13. The vetoed language conflicts with the requirements of NMSA 1978, Sections 9-27-22, -25 (2017).

On page 139, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “,up to three percent,” on line 24. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 140, I have vetoed all of lines 11 and 12. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 143, I have vetoed the third instance of the words “The higher education” on line 1 and I have vetoed all of lines 2 through 5. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 179, I have vetoed lines 6 through 9. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 179, I have vetoed all of lines 10 through 16. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 180, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “,including outcomes” on line 17, all of line 18, and the numbers and letters “23C NMSA 1978” on line 19. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 184, I have vetoed both instances of the number “2,000.0” on line 25. On page 185, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “To contract”, “higher education”, and “-based funding formula” on line 1 through the end of the line, and all of line 2. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions and conflicts with existing law.

On page 189, I have vetoed the comma before the word “including” on line 16 through the end of the line, and I have vetoed the beginning of line 17 through the word “bodies”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

Also on page 189, I have vetoed from the beginning of line 22 through the comma after the word “finance”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 190, I have vetoed from the comma before the word “including” on line 5 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 6 to the word “station”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 191, I have vetoed the second instance of the word “in” on line 8, all of line 9, and from the beginning of line 10 through the word “county”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 192, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “in Bernalillo county,” on line 9, all of line 10, and the beginning of line 11 through the words “pilot project”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

Also on page 192, I have vetoed from the words “to create” to the end of the line on line 25. On page 193, I have vetoed the word “pilot” on line 1. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 193, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “that facilitate community gatherings, including” on line 4. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 194, I have struck both instances of the number “1,000.0” on lines 20 and 21 and the words and punctuation “sports” and “The other state funds appropriation is from the art in public places fund.” on line 22. The vetoed language conflicts with the restrictions under NMSA 1978, Section 13-4A-2 (2022).

On page 195, I have vetoed the words “distribution to the New Mexico mortgage finance authority for” on line 10. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

Also on page 195, I have vetoed beginning with the words “the north central” through the words “develop a plan for” on line 17, the words and punctuation “of the cambiar model” and “in the northeastern quadrant of New Mexico,” on line 18, all of lines 19 and 20, and the beginning of line 21 through the words “tribal entities”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 196, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “, contingent on the department” on line 16 and from the beginning of line 17 through the words “local match requirement”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 198, I have vetoed the words “Las Cruces” on line 5. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 198, I have vetoed the words “the purchase of time on the cloud for” on line 24. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Additionally, on page 198, I have vetoed all of line 25. On page 199, I have vetoed the word “DEPARTMENT” and both instances of the number “4,000.0” on line 1, and all of lines 2 and 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function and would impermissibly allow the use of funds from the Art in Public Places Fund.

On page 200, I have vetoed from the word “contingent” on line 24 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 25 through the word “and”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

On page 203, I have vetoed all of lines 9 through 11. The vetoed language conflicts with the restrictions under NMSA 1978, Section 13-4A-2 (1986).

On page 208, I have vetoed the word “study” on line 1, the punctuation and words “, including” on line 2 through the end of the line, and the words “domestic horses” on line 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 208, I have vetoed the words and number “system and organizational control type 2” and “to provide a” on line 12, all of line 13, and the beginning of line 14 through the word “systems”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Additionally, on page 208, I have vetoed from the comma after the word “fund” on line 22 through the end of the line and the beginning of line 23 through the word “system”. The contingency attached to the appropriation has been met.

On page 209, I have vetoed the words “that removed the four hundred percent” on line 21 through the end of the line and the beginning of line 22 through the words “tax credits”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 210, I have vetoed the words “an innovative” and “Dona Ana county” on line 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 211, I have vetoed all of lines 11 through line 19. The vetoed language improperly restricts the use of the funding.

On page 213, I have vetoed beginning with the words “that addresses” on line 11 through the end of the line, all of line 12, and from the beginning of line 13 through the word “support”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 215, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “for low-interest loans to rural communities” on line 9. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

Also on page 215, I have vetoed the words “state public” and “including” on line 21 and from the beginning of line 22 through the word “for”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 217, I have vetoed the word “shelter” line 7. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

Also on page 217, I have vetoed from the word “contract” through the word “and” and the words and punctuation “short-term stabilization” on line 10 and from the words “in Dona Ana” through the word “counties” on line 11. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 221, I have vetoed all of lines 20 through 22, including the appropriation. The vetoed language conflicts with the restrictions under Section 13-4A-2.

On page 222, I have vetoed from the words “ten million” on line 2 through the end of the line, all of lines 3 through 5, and the word and punctuation “programming.” on line 6. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 223, I have vetoed the words “in Dona Ana county” on line 9.

Also on page 223, I have vetoed the words “legal fees related to” on line 13.

Additionally, on page 223, I have vetoed the words “regional education cooperative six in Portales to” and “a statewide study of” on line 18 and from the beginning of on line 19 through the word “scores”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 224, I have vetoed the word “exams” on line 2. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 224, I have vetoed from the words “to increase” on line 25 through the end of the line. On page 225, I have vetoed from the beginning of line 1 through the word “physicians”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 225, I have vetoed the words “in equal” on line 20, all of line 21, and from the beginning of line 22 through the word “technology”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 226, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “To the health sciences center”, “an actuarial study on” and “, including cost drivers” on line 1. The vetoed language improperly restricts the use of the funding.

On page 227, I have vetoed the words “faculty supports and” on line 17. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

Also on page 227, I have vetoed all of lines 22 and 23.

On page 228, I have vetoed the word “independent” on line 13 and the words “critical access” on line 14. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 229, I have vetoed the words “To the bureau of business and economic research” on line 6.

Also on page 229, I have vetoed all of lines 20 through 21, including the appropriation. The contingency attached to the vetoed language is no longer applicable.

On page 230, I have vetoed all of lines 4 through 5, including the appropriation. The vetoed language improperly restricts the use of the funding.

On page 232, I have vetoed beginning with the word “programs” through the word “to” on line 17, the second instance of the comma and the word “three” on line 18, all of lines 19 through 21, and from the beginning of line 22 through the words “drone center”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 234, I have vetoed the words “research for” on line 3 and the word “technology” on line 11. The vetoed language improperly restricts the use of the funding.

On page 236, I have vetoed all of lines 8 through 10, including the appropriation. The vetoed language appears to violate Article IX, Section 14 of the New Mexico Constitution.

On page 243, I have vetoed all of lines 15 through 25. On page 244, I have vetoed all of lines 1 through 3. The contingency attached to the vetoed language is no longer applicable.

On page 245, I have vetoed the word “audits” on line 15. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 245, I have vetoed the words “randomized controlled” on lines 17 and 22. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 246, I have vetoed the words “randomized controlled” on line 2. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 247, I have vetoed the word “audits” on line 9. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 247, I have vetoed the words “randomized controlled” on lines 11, 16, and 21. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 249, I have vetoed the word “audits” on line 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 249, I have vetoed the words “randomized controlled” on lines 5, 10, and 15. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 250, I have vetoed from the word “provided” on line 7 through the end of the line from the beginning of line 8 through the words “year two”. Also on page 250, I have vetoed from the word “provided” on line 15 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 16 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 251, I have vetoed the words “extraordinary” on line 3 and “litigation expenses” on line 4. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 251, I have vetoed the words “or” and “safeguard” on line 5 and all of line 6. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Additionally, on page 251, I have vetoed the words “with half of the” on line 12, all of line 13, and from the beginning of line 14 through the words “Bernalillo county”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Further, on page 251, I have vetoed the words “that targets” on line 17 and from the beginning of line 18 through the word “homes”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 252, I have vetoed the words “workplace experience and” and “offering additional workforce development and” on line 5, and from the beginning of line 6 through the word “courses”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also on page 252, I have vetoed from the comma preceding the word “including” on line 8 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 9 through the word “engine”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Additionally, on page 252, I have vetoed all of lines 13 through 14. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Further, on page 252, I have vetoed the words “for transportation” on line 16. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 253, I have vetoed from the words “provided that” on line 18 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 19 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 254, I have vetoed all of line 6 and from the beginning of line 7 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 255, I have vetoed the word “thirty” on line 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also, on page 255, I have vetoed from the words “data collection” on line 9 through the end of the line, and the words “and engagement” on line 10. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 256, I have vetoed the words “the” and “school” on line 15. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions, as the To’Hajiilee school is managed by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs.

On page 257, I have vetoed from the words “provided that” on line 14 to the end of the line and from the beginning of line 15 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Also, on page 257, I have vetoed the words “at Volcano Vista” on line 20. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Additionally, on page 257, I have vetoed the words “for programmatic costs and resources” on line 25. On page 258, I have vetoed the word “directly” and the comma before the word “medical” through the word “services” on line 1, the word “southern” and from the period before the word “Services” on line 2 through the end of the line, all of line 3, and from the beginning of line 4 through the words “poverty guidelines”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 258, I have vetoed the second instance of the words “one hundred” on line 8. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 260, I have vetoed the words “the expansion of” on line 1, the word “hospitality” and from the words “in partnership” on line 2 through the end of the line, and the word “foundation” on line 3. The vetoed language appears to violate Article IX Section 14 of the New Mexico Constitution.

Also, on page 260, I have vetoed all of lines 24 through 25. On page 261, I have vetoed all of lines 1 through 3. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 263, I have vetoed the words and punctuation “fifty-unit” on line 17. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial function.

On page 269, I have vetoed from the word “provided” on line 25 through the end of the line. On page 270, I have vetoed from the beginning of line 1 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 271, I have vetoed from the word “provided” on line 8 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 9 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 273, I have vetoed the letters “KSFR” on line 1. The vetoed language in the appropriation interferes with the executive managerial functions and appropriates funds to an entity ineligible for direct appropriations under Article 4, Section 31 of the New Mexico Constitution.

On page 274, I have vetoed from the word “provided” on line 16 through the end of the line and from the beginning of line 17 through the words “year two”. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

On page 279, I have vetoed all of lines 12 through 15. The contingency attached to the appropriation has failed.

On page 280, I have vetoed the words “up to one million” on line 14 and the words, number, and punctuation “dollars (\$1,000,000)” on line 15. The vetoed language inappropriately interferes with executive managerial functions.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. p.m.  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2026

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

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. p.m.  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2026

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