



State of New Mexico

April 5, 2013

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 60

The Honorable Mary Kay Papen, President Pro Tempore
And Members of the New Mexico State Senate
State Capitol Building
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear President Pro Tempore Papen 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 PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 65, as amended, which was enacted during the Fifty-First Legislature, First Session, 2013.

While I support the intention of this bill, which is to assess an incarcerated individual's post-release Medicaid eligibility before they are released, Senate Bill 65 places an unfunded burden on several of our state agencies. Senate Bill 65 also duplicates an existing agreement between the Human Services Department (HSD), the New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD), and the Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD). The cabinet secretaries of each of these three departments have committed to working on closing this loophole through an administrative process, rather than initiating this effort through legislation.

Senate Bill 65 requires that the HSD establish 52 new interfaces with the Aspen system and the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). As a result, Senate Bill 65 requires that we alter the new IT system for management of the Medicaid program before it has even been launched for use. This would cost the state general fund more than \$1 million alone, three new full-time employees, and hundreds of hours of work to set-up these interface systems. The new interfaces between the state and local facilities would each cost over \$30,000, resources that would also have to come from the general fund. Without added language in the budget to accommodate these increased costs, I cannot support Senate Bill 65 at the expense of other state-funded programs.

With the expansion of Medicaid through federal health care reform, it is important that we maximize available opportunities to increase the number served and the quality of healthcare for all New Mexicans. It is our goal to accomplish the merits of Senate Bill

65 by linking services within our current state facilities before establishing a state-wide mandate in statute.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susana Martinez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S".

Susana Martinez

Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR