

April 11, 2025

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 29

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

Speaker Martinez and Members of the House:

Sound investment of public funds is essential for the State's economic growth, protection of New Mexico's natural resources, and the quality of life of New Mexico communities. HOUSE TAXATION & REVENUE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 450, without emergency clause with certificate of correction ("HB 450"), funds more than \$1.2 billion in projects. A total of \$627 million in state agency capital projects are funded, including \$166 million for higher education institutions statewide, \$147 million for public safety, \$56.5 million for public schools, \$46 million for health and behavioral health facilities statewide, \$40 million for state parks, \$20 million for a new STEM center, \$19 million for water projects, \$17 million for magistrate and district courts, \$11 million for senior centers, \$10 million for electric vehicle infrastructure, \$8 million for statewide correctional department facilities, and \$2.5 million for acequia improvements statewide. There is also an appropriation for \$24 million to complete previously funded projects.

This bill also funds \$595 million in local public body projects. This includes \$91 million for public schools and higher education institutions, \$88 million in water and wastewater projects, \$85 million for law enforcement and public safety improvements, \$53 million for public buildings, \$52 million for health and behavioral health, \$45 million for affordable and transitional housing, \$44 million for community facilities, \$42 million for parks, recreation and beautification projects, \$34 million for highways, roads, and bridges, \$27 million for cultural facilities, \$15 million for transportation projects, \$8 million for corrections and judicial facilities, \$5 million for military and veterans facilities, and \$4 million for emergency projects.

While HB 450 does much to address the State's infrastructure needs, the bill includes several projects that lack proper planning or are not ready to proceed. For these and other reasons, I have exercised my power to disapprove certain parts of HB 450 in accordance with the authority granted to me by Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution to veto \$1,263,000 in general

fund projects. These vetoes total approximately .10% of the total amount of capital outlay provided for in HB 450.

As I mentioned last year in House Executive Message No. 17, the capital outlay process mainly exists to fund intelligent investments into critical infrastructure, and relatively small projects should not be addressed by capital outlay funds. State and local governments have other means well within their capacities to fund these smaller projects. Accordingly, I have also vetoed capital outlay appropriations under \$10,000. In some instances, other funding sources are available for vetoed projects. If those funds are insufficient for the vetoed projects and the need is dire, I encourage the legislative sponsors to contact me.

Lastly, I have exercised my authority under Article IV, Section 22 to veto unnecessarily restrictive language concerning decisions properly within executive agency discretion, to ensure funds are directed to the appropriate fiscal agent, and to guarantee that capital outlay appropriations are sufficient to complete the intended public projects.

Accordingly, I this day SIGN and RETURN:

HOUSE TAXATION & REVENUE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 450, without emergency clause with certificate of correction, enacted during the Fifty-Seventh Legislature, First Session, 2025, 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:

I have vetoed the words and punctuation “and up to nine million dollars (\$9,000,000) for” on page 11, line 12, and lines 13 through 16, leaving the period “.” on page 11.

I have vetoed lines 14 through 17 on page 25.

I have vetoed the words “and” on page 26, line 23, and the words “related infrastructure” on page 26, line 24.

I have vetoed “; and” on line 19 on page 27.

I have vetoed lines 20 through 25 on page 27, leaving the period “.”.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with the federal Americans with” on page 33, line 18, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 33, line 19.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with the federal Americans with” on page 34, line 23, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 34, line 24.

I have vetoed all of line 22 on page 35 and the words “Act of 1990 ” on line 23.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with the federal Americans with” on page 36, line 10, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 36, line 11.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with” on page 38, line 11, and the words “the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 38, line 12.

I have vetoed line 21, page 38, through line 3, page 39.

I have vetoed the words “to comply with the” on page 44, line 12, and the words and punctuation “federal Americans with Disabilities Act 1990,” on page 44, line 13.

I have vetoed lines 16 through 20 through the “;” on page 44.

I have vetoed the words “to comply with the federal Americans with” on page 45, line 23, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 45, line 24.

I have vetoed the words “to comply with the federal Americans with” on page 46, line 10, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 46, line 11.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with” on page 50, line 3, and the words “the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 50, line 4.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with the federal Americans with” on page 52, line 9, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 52, line 10.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with” on page 52, line 17, and the words “the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 52, line 18.

I have vetoed the words “to comply with the federal Americans with” on page 53, line 15, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 53, line 16.

I have vetoed the words “for compliance with the federal Americans with” on page 56, line 11, and the words “Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 56, line 12.

I have vetoed lines 11 through 17 on page 58.

I have vetoed the words “to comply with the” on page 59, line 11, and the words “federal Americans Disabilities Act of 1990” on page 59, line 12.

I have vetoed the word and punctuation “design,” on page 68, line 25.

I have vetoed the words “New Mexico” and “integration” on page 153, line 1.

I have vetoed the words “and to pay back a loan” on page 191, line 6.

I have vetoed the words and punctuation “; to pay back a loan” on page 194, line 17.

I have vetoed the words “and to pay back a” on page 208, line 7, and the word “loan” on page 208, line 8.

I have vetoed the words “and to repay a loan” on page 209, line 18.

I have vetoed the words “to pay back a loan and” on page 211, line 20.

I have vetoed lines 17 through 20 on page 233.

I have vetoed lines 2 through 6 on page 236.

I have vetoed lines 12 through 15 on page 236.

I have vetoed lines 18 through 21 on page 237.

I have vetoed lines 1 through 5 on page 238.

I have vetoed lines 10 through 13 on page 238.

I have vetoed lines 15 through 18 on page 240.

I have vetoed the words “and to plan, design, construct, renovate” on page 241, line 4.

I have vetoed the words “plan, design, construct, renovate” on page 241, line 13.

I have vetoed the words “plan, design, construct, renovate and” on page 242, line 9.

I have vetoed lines 15 through 18 on page 243.

I have vetoed the words “plan, design, construct” on page 244, line 7.

I have vetoed the words and punctuation “plan, design, construct” on page 244, line 16, and the words and punctuation “purchase, repair, renovate” on page 244, line 17.

I have vetoed lines 4 through 7 on page 245.

I have vetoed lines 20 through 23 on page 245.

I have vetoed lines 24 and 25 on page 245, and lines 1 and 2 on page 246.

I have vetoed the word and punctuation “plan,” on page 246, line 15, and the words “design, construct,” on page 246, line 16.

I have vetoed lines 2 through 5 on page 247.

I have vetoed the words “plan, design, construct,” on page 247, line 12.

I have vetoed the words and punctuation “plan, design,” on page 249, line 5, and the word and punctuation “, construct” on page 249, line 6.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____ 2025

By _____
Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____ 2025

By _____
Chief Clerk of the House