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OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY OF STATE

Susana Martinez  
Governor

April 6, 2017

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 36

The Honorable Brian Egolf, Jr., Speaker of the House and  
Members of the House of Representatives  
State Capitol Building  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Honorable Speaker Egolf and Members of the House:

Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico, Article IV, Section 22, I hereby VETO and return HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 287, enacted by the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session, 2017.

This bill requires the Public Education Department to develop rules for the training of school employees for the care of students with diabetes. It also requires that at least one employee who receives the training to be present and available during school and all school-related activities in which a student with diabetes is participating—including trips, extended off-site excursions, extracurricular activities, and on buses.

While this legislation is well-intentioned, I have several concerns. First, this is an unfunded mandate and our schools cannot absorb the costs associated with training and staffing.

Second, thirty-two of our thirty-three counties are considered to be health care professional shortage areas, which will impact the implementation of this bill.

Third, the correct training for the school employees is not addressed, and a demonstration of competency is not required. Further, these employees are not required to be health care professionals, which means that lay persons may be administering oral drugs or injecting insulin.

Finally, despite being named in the bill, the New Mexico School Nurses Association was not consulted. This organization is vital to our schools and its input is critical to an initiative like this one.

For these reasons, I veto House Bill 287.


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Page 2

Respectfully yours,



Susana Martinez

Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: 9:16 a.m. p.m.  
Date: April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

By   
Secretary of State

Time: 11:58 a.m. p.m.  
Date: April 6, 2017

By   
Chief Clerk of the House