

April 7, 2017

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 63

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

Honorable 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 BILL 47 enacted by the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session, 2017.

As a former prosecutor, I have seen firsthand the devastating impact of drugs and crime on our communities. Throughout my tenure as Governor, I have prioritized the safety and health of our communities through efforts aimed at better equipping our law enforcement officers and at deterring criminal activity.

However, I cannot support SB 47 in its current form. The bill contains several unintended consequences that would leave an at-risk child in harm's way and would hamper law enforcement's ability to act effectively at the scene of an overdose. The bill also creates a situation where an addict would be in a constant state of immunity simply by suggesting or requesting the need for seeking medical assistance without sufficiently addressing the roots of the addiction.

For these reasons, I hereby veto SB 47.

Respectfully yours,

Susana Martinez
Governor

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Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____, 2017

By _____
Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____, 2017

By _____
Chief Clerk of the Senate