



RECEIVED

State of New Mexico

2017 APR -6 AM 10:15

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Susana Martinez
Governor

April 6, 2017

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 31

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 19, as amended, enacted by the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session, 2017.

Senate Bill 19 ("SB 19") requires the Children, Youth and Families Department ("CYFD"), when a child is taken into protective custody, to prioritize placement of the child with a relative. While I appreciate the intent of the legislation, it is unnecessary. The bill codifies CYFD's current practice of placing a child with a relative. Furthermore, CYFD is already required by Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to give placement preference to relatives.

For these reasons I am vetoing SB 19.

Respectfully yours,

Susana Martinez
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: 10:15 (a.m.) p.m.
Date: Apr. 6, 2017

By Secretary of State

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 31

The Honorable Mary Kay Papen

April 6, 2017

Page 2

Time: 11:27 a.m. p.m.
Date: 4-6, 2017

By Jean-Marie for Chief Clerk
Chief Clerk of the Senate