

April 6, 2023

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 17

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

Dear Speaker Martinez and Members of the House:

I am pleased to sign HOUSE TAXATION AND REVENUE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 505, as amended, with certificate of correction (“HB 505”), and enact into law funding for significant infrastructure investments throughout New Mexico. Sound investment of public funds is essential for the State’s economic growth, protection of New Mexico’s natural resources, and a high quality of life for New Mexicans. This bill funds more than \$1.2 billion in projects. It also funds \$608.5 million in state agency capital projects, including \$32.9 million for district and magistrate courts, \$22 million for statewide improvements at correctional department facilities, \$20 million for public school food security, \$10 million for Mainstreet projects, \$68 million for the New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute, \$2.3 million for Children, Youth and Families Department facilities, \$70 million for pre-kindergarten classrooms and career technical education, \$35 million for public school security systems, and \$20 million for tribal libraries. The bill also funds about \$143 million for higher education, \$125.6 million for tribal projects, \$102.8 million for public safety projects, \$150.2 million for water and wastewater projects, \$76.5 million for public schools, \$37.8 million for road projects, \$10.5 million for behavioral health facilities, \$14.8 million for housing projects, and \$10 million for a reproductive health clinic.

While HB 505 does much to address our State’s infrastructure needs, the bill includes several projects that were underfunded or violated the Anti-Donation Clause of the New Mexico Constitution. For these reasons, I have vetoed \$260,000 in general fund projects. I have also vetoed parts of HB 505 to remove unduly restrictive language that intrude upon the executive managerial function, to ensure funds are appropriated to the correct fiscal agent, and to make certain that capital outlay monies are sufficient to fund corresponding public projects.

New Mexicans deserve that we do our best to allocate capital resources to projects that meet the needs of local communities and prioritize our most significant needs and common goals. Viewed as a whole, this legislation furthers those ends.

Accordingly, I this day SIGN and RETURN:

HOUSE TAXATION AND REVENUE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 505, as amended, with certificate of correction, which was enacted during the Fifty-Sixth Legislature, First Session, 2023, except the following item or items, part or parts, which I hereby veto pursuant to the authority granted me in Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution:

On page 10, on line 2, I have vetoed the words “and other equipment or to” and on line 3, I have vetoed the words “purchase and equip vehicles”.

On page 18, on line 12, I have vetoed the words “up to” and on line 13, I have vetoed the words “seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) for”.

On page 18, on line 21, I have vetoed the words “to protect patient” and on line 22, I have vetoed the words “health and safety and to address deferred maintenance”.

On page 36, on line 18, I have vetoed the words “Our Youth mural” and on line 19, I have vetoed the words “painting at the”.

On page 151, I have vetoed lines 7 through 10.

On page 155, on line 10, I have vetoed the word “Explora”.

On page 157, on line 19, I have vetoed the words “Rio Grande credit union”.

On page 165, I have vetoed lines 22 through 25 and on page 166, I have vetoed line 1.

On page 171, I have vetoed lines 22 through 24.

On page 179, on line 18, I have vetoed the words “at the farmers’ market” and on line 19, I have vetoed the words “youth center facility”.

On page 183, on line 10, I have vetoed the words “at El Caldito soup” and on line 11, I have vetoed the word “kitchen”.

On page 184, on line 3, I have vetoed the words “currently housing Jardin de los Ninos”.

On page 184, on line 20, I have vetoed the words “currently housing Casa de Peregrinos”.

On page 197, on line 25, I have vetoed the words “utilizing a former soccer field in the Mentmore neighborhood”.

On page 200, on line 2, I have vetoed the words “land management”.

On page 203, on line 5, I have vetoed the word “Redi-” and on line 6, I have vetoed the words “Net in”.

On page 217, on line 16, I have vetoed the words “used by El Museo Cultural”.

On page 226, on line 11, I have vetoed the words “Anderson Abruzzo” and on line 12, I have vetoed the word “Albuquerque”.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House