

April 7, 2023

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 32

The Honorable Mimi Stewart, President Pro Tempore  
and Members of the New Mexico State Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear President Pro Tempore Stewart and Members of the Senate:

I have decided to veto SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE HEALTH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 84, as amended (“SB 84”), which would have set limits on the Parole Board and the courts related to incarceration and sanctions for “technical violations” of probation and parole.

SB 84 was drafted and passed by the Legislature but failed to get the support of the district attorneys and other stakeholders. With probation and parole changes, we need to balance the interests of the offenders, their families, victims, the courts, and communities. As written, SB 84 ignores practicalities that could further endanger both parolees and our communities.

Over the past four years, my administration has made progress in this arena: individualized supervision methods have led to improved measures on recidivism and participation in treatment and specialty courts. SB 84 takes discretion away from the courts in lieu of a one-size-fits-all approach. This could be a step backwards. I am open to ideas to reform probation and parole in our state, but those efforts should be the result of robust collaboration between the executive and the legislature, as well as between the district attorneys, public defenders, and other stakeholders.

Because of these issues, and pursuant to my authority under Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution, I have vetoed SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE HEALTH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 84, enacted by the Fifty-Sixth Legislature, First Session, 2023.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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

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

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State of New Mexico

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

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

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the Senate