

**State of New Mexico**  
*Office of the Governor*

**Susana Martinez**  
*Governor*

Contact: Scott Darnell  
(505) 819-1398  
[scott.darnell@state.nm.us](mailto:scott.darnell@state.nm.us)

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**SENATE MAINTAINS DANGEROUS STATUS QUO BY  
PROTECTING NEW MEXICO DRIVER'S LICENSE POLICY**

**SANTA FE** – Governor Susana Martinez made the following statement tonight after the Senate failed to repeal the New Mexico law that grants driver's licenses to illegal immigrants.

"It is unfortunate that the Senate Democratic leadership rejected a bi-partisan compromise to repeal the law giving driver's licenses to illegal immigrants, which had passed the House with a significant bi-partisan majority," said Governor Martinez. "The people of New Mexico sent a loud and clear message that they want this dangerous law repealed, but some in the legislature chose to shut out the voices of their constituents in favor of partisan political gamesmanship. I promised the people of New Mexico that I will fight to repeal this law and that fight will continue."

Last week, the House passed a bi-partisan compromise on a vote of 42-28 that would have stopped the issuance of driver's licenses to illegal immigrants, a move supported by over 70 percent of New Mexicans. However, last night in the Senate Judiciary Committee, certain Senators voted to turn the bill into one that actually continues the practice of providing driver's licenses to illegal immigrants. This evening, an amendment supported by Republicans and two Democratic senators that would have returned the bill to the form passed by the House was defeated by the Democratic leadership.

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