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SECRETARY OF STATE

## State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
*Governor*

April 4, 2019

### SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 42

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

Honorable President Pro Tempore Papen and Members of the Senate:

Pursuant to my authority under Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution, I have signed SENATE BILL 535, as amended ("SB 535"), enacted by the Fifty-Fourth Legislature, First Session, 2019.

This legislation bolsters the Severance Tax Permanent Fund, an essential piece of New Mexico's financial portfolio, establishing a sustainable trajectory for this fund. As I sign it into law, I would remind members of the Senate Finance Committee of the hearing at which I presented late in the legislative session. Most every member of the committee voiced support for identifying permanent funding mechanisms for an evidence-based investment in our youngest children and their futures. This bill places the Severance Tax Permanent Fund on a solid foundation, and I believe strongly that, with this strengthened foundation, this fund can and should be part of the permanent funding solution for early childhood education. I look forward to presenting proposals during the next legislative session that give every member of the Senate Finance Committee, and every legislator, the opportunity to make good on their commitments to early childhood education funding.

Respectfully yours,

  
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

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Time: 9:44 a.m. 5 p.m.  
Date: April 4 2019

By [Signature]  
Secretary of State

Time: 7:49 a.m. p.m.  
Date: 4-5-19 2019

By [Signature]  
Chief Clerk of the Senate