

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

January 18, 2024

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 25

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

Speaker Martinez and Members of the House:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 5(B)(2) of the New Mexico Constitution, I am authorizing for your consideration during the Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Session, submission of a bill bearing Legislative Council Service drafting number .226971, a bill prioritizing water project fund projects that are urgent to address public health and safety; allowing the Water Trust Board to authorize water projects for wastewater conveyance and treatment; providing that the New Mexico Finance Authority set requirements of financial capability of qualifying entities and determine costs of originating grants and loans; removing the requirement that eligible entities conduct an audit and that water project plans are reviewed and recommended by the State Engineer and the Department of Environment before approval; removing fiscal agent fees from items that are eligible for grants and loans; reducing the amount of water project funds distributed to the State Engineer; allowing the New Mexico Finance Authority to fund water projects without receiving the approval of the Legislature for the next five years; providing that money in the Water Project Fund may be used to hire contractors to provide technical assistance; and changing the date that the Water Trust Board is required to report to the Legislature.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: 12:24 a.m. p.m. Date: 1-18-24 2024

Chief Clerk of the House

State Capitol • Room 400 • Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 • 505-476-220