



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

April 9, 2025

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 21

REC'D NH - SEC. OF STATE
2025 APR 9 PM 5:22

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

President Pro Tempore Stewart and Members of the Senate:

Pursuant to my authority under Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution, I have signed SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 70, as amended ("SB 70"), enacted by the Fifty-Seventh Legislature, First Session, 2025.

SB 70 will, among other things, give law enforcement much-needed tools to prosecute human trafficking. I continue to implore the Legislature, however, to pass related human trafficking legislation. House Bill 86, for example, passed through the Health and Public Affairs Committee on February 2, 2025, and never received a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee, effectively killing it for the session. Victims of human trafficking and their families deserve better.

As it currently stands, the penalty for trafficking certain controlled substances in New Mexico is greater than for trafficking human beings. Our border states of Texas, Colorado, and Arizona all have stricter penalties for these heinous offenses. It is time for New Mexico to pass meaningful legislation to combat human trafficking in our State.

Respectfully yours,

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: 5:22 a.m. (p.m.)
Date: 4/9 2025

Secretary of State

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Date: _____ 2025

By _____
Chief Clerk of the Senate