



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

REC'D NM-SEC. OF STATE
2025 OCT 8 PM 3:59

October 8, 2025

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 3

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 BILL 3, without emergency clause ("SB 3"), enacted by the Fifty-Seventh Legislature, First Special Session, 2025.

SB 3 changes the requirements pertaining to the immunization of children attending childhood care programs and schools based on the recommendations of the Department of Health or the American Academy of Pediatrics. It also requires the Department of Health to recommend immunizations for adults based on guidance from the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American College of Physicians, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist, or the College of Physicians. Additionally, SB 3 requires vaccines purchased pursuant to the vaccine purchasing program to be recommended by the Department of Health or the American Academy of Pediatrics, and it prohibits certain health insurance plans from imposing cost-sharing requirements on immunizations recommended by the Department of Health.

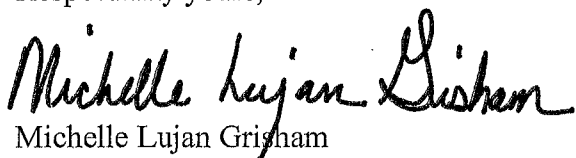
The changes in SB 3 are vital to safeguarding the health and safety of New Mexicans in light of the United State Department of Health and Human Services' failure to follow science and make timely and necessary vaccine recommendations. Importantly, the original version of the bill included an emergency clause, which would have made it effective immediately upon my signing. I thank the Senate for understanding the importance of this legislation and their bipartisan efforts to pass the bill with the emergency clause. But the emergency clause was stripped from the bill when Republican legislators in the House—including many members that voted to pass this bill in their respective committees—injected politics into the matter and decided to withhold their support at the last minute. As a result, the House Republicans placed the lives of thousands of New Mexicans at risk as we are headed into peak season for respiratory illnesses such as RSV, the flu,

and COVID-19. I am also disappointed with the lack of procedural advocacy by my own party, who appeared unprepared to defend the urgent need for SB 3 during floor debate on the bill.

Because of the House of Representatives' failure to act responsibly, Department of Health Secretary DeBlassie began the process of ensuring access to vaccines without a prescription and had drafted a public health order ensuring availability for any New Mexican wanting a vaccine. The need for that public health order was obviated when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention agreed with the recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines for children on October 6, 2025, and the Department of Health proceeded to purchase these life-saving vaccines that will be needed during this urgent time.

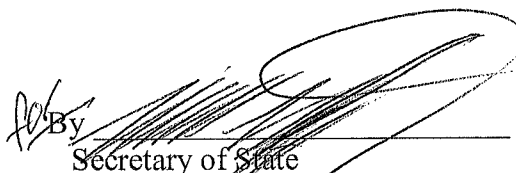
New Mexicans expect elected officials to step up and come together to ensure their wellbeing. I understand that our political parties have some very divergent views and that we will not agree on everything. But preventing our children from getting life-saving vaccines simply because one party is frustrated that they are in the minority is unacceptable. Let us not lose sight of the fact that we all represent the people of New Mexico. We owe it to them to put politics aside and enact meaningful legislation that will make everyone safer and healthier. This is—quite literally—the most important thing we do in state government. I sincerely hope the Legislature will commit to working together as a body to do this important job during its next regular session in January.

Respectfully yours,

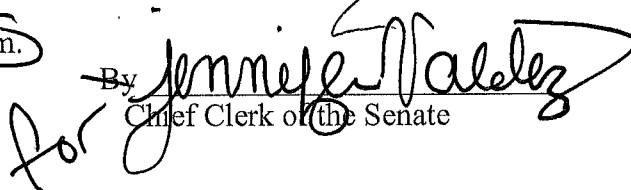

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: 3:39 a.m. p.m.
Date: 10/8 2025

By 
Secretary of State

Time: 3:55 a.m. p.m.
Date: October 8, 1 2025

By 
for Chief Clerk of the Senate