



State of New Mexico

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1605 W. WASHINGTON
SANTA FE, NM 87501
505-476-2200

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

March 10, 2026

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 95

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

Honorable Speaker Martínez and Members of the House:

Pursuant to my authority under Article IV, Section 22 of the New Mexico Constitution, I have signed HOUSE BILL 256 (“HB 256”), enacted by the Fifty-Seventh Legislature, Second Session, 2026, which requires automated external defibrillators to be available at all school athletic events.

While I support HB 256, I previously signed House Bill 54 in 2025, which already required defibrillators in every high school. *See* NMSA 1978, § 22-33-6 (2005). This should have been sufficient for school districts to ensure a defibrillator is available at organized events involving a physical game or competition or during practice or preparation for physical games and competitions. High schools must take the appropriate measures to help students who may face a sudden cardiac arrest or similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds—which is why I signed House Bill 54 last year.

My hope is that with this additional measure, school districts will follow through with the previous (and now additional) guidelines. If schools continue to half-heartedly comply with the law, the Legislature ought to consider legislation next session requiring schools to rename their teams the “Mighty Defibrillators” to jolt them into compliance.

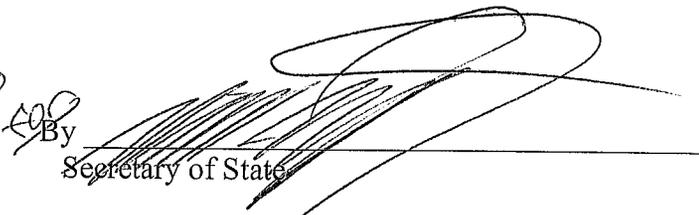
Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Lujan Grisham".

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Time: 4:03 a.m. p.m.
Date: 3/10 2026

By 
Secretary of State

Time: 4:23 a.m. p.m.
Date: 3/10 2026

By 
Chief Clerk of the House