

Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce
Legislative Agenda
52nd Legislature, First Session

STATE FY16 BUDGET

Support

- Consensus Revenue Estimating Group projection for \$141 million (2.3% growth) in “New Money” until a new projection agreement is reached *
**The Consensus Revenue Estimating Group will meet again in late January or early February to update their projection. Given the volatility of oil and gas receipts, the consensus revenue projection may very well change resulting in a coinciding change in legislative funding levels during the budgeting process and ensuing negotiations.*
- Administration and LFC recommended minimum reserves of about 8%
- Administration recommendation of \$4M and LFC recommendation of \$3.3M targeted compensation increases for State Law Enforcement Officers
- Administration and LFC recommendation of at least \$9M for teacher merit pay
- Administration and LFC language that includes student performance in how teachers are evaluated and promoted

Oppose

- Any tax increases
- Any use of Permanent Fund or other fund dollars for purposes not intended
- Reinstatement of Gross Receipts Tax on food sales
- Across the board compensation increases for all state employees

CAPITAL FY16 BUDGET - \$230.8M
available for NEW capital projects

Support

- Administration's recommendation of \$60M for three years for highway funding of selected major projects while seeking a long-term solution
- Administration's recommendation of \$25M for LEDA (Closing Fund) if needed to fund it at \$50 million
- Capital Outlay Request for hangar at the Spaceport Authority

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION

Support

- Ending Social Promotion
- Confirmation of Hanna Skandera as Secretary of Education
- Administration and LFC recommendations for an increase in minimum Level 1 teachers' salaries
- Administration recommendation of \$15.5M below the line and LFC recommendation of \$15M below the line for New Mexico Reads to Lead
- LFC recommendation of \$27.2M and Administration recommendation of \$22.2M in below the line funding for Kindergarten-Three-Plus
- LFC recommendation of \$21M and Administration recommendation of \$21M for Pre-Kindergarten
- Administration recommendation of \$27M and LFC recommendation of slightly over \$25M to similarly fund "below the line" initiatives for New Mexico Graduates Now, Teacher and School Leader and Training Programs, Interventions and Support for Students, Struggling Schools and Parents, and STEM
- \$3M for New Mexico Graduates Now as recommended by both the Administration and the LFC
- Recommendations by both the Administration and LFC of \$9M in funding for Teacher and School Leader Programs and Supports for Training, Preparation, Recruitment and Retention.
- Funding recommendations by the Administration of \$12.5M and the LFC of \$10.5M for Interventions and Support for Students, Struggling Schools and Parents
- Administration and LFC recommendations of \$2.5M for STEM
- Administration recommendation of \$4.8M for Teachers Pursuing Excellence and Teacher Supplies
- Acceleration of advancement track through licensure system for highly effective teachers and creation of a pathway for teachers to more quickly become principals
- Adjunct teacher licensure

Oppose

- Increasing Public Education Commission powers and duties

HIGHER EDUCATION

Support

- Administration recommendation of \$2.5M and LFC recommendation of \$5M to provide funding to the Higher Education Endowment
- Administration recommendation of \$1M for Technology Research Collaborative
- Administration recommendation of \$6.5M for the Lottery Scholarship Fund

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Support

- Bi-partisan legislation that would streamline traditional telephone service regulation to enhance consumer choice and promote investment in newer technologies for the state's largest incumbent providers

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Support

- Right-to-Work
- Administration recommendation of \$50M and LFC recommendation of \$30M to fund LEDA (Closing Fund)
- Administration recommendation of \$7M and LFC recommendation of \$5.5M for JTIP
- Administration recommendation of \$1.5M and LFC recommendation of \$2M in marketing funding for Tourism Department
- No indemnity/medical benefits under workman's compensation if worker's injury or death resulted from alcohol/drug use at the time
- Administration recommendation of \$1.8M for the Spaceport Authority
- Administration recommendation of \$500K plus additional non-recurring and capital outlay and LFC recommendation of \$850K for New Mexico MainStreet programs
- Administration recommendation of \$500K for the Economic Development Partnership
- \$500K for Small Business Development Centers

PUBLIC SAFETY

Support

- Two-Tiered Driver's License
- Return to work for police officers
- Providing more money to protect New Mexico's children (protective services)
- Increased penalties for repeat DWI offenders

TAX POLICY

Support

- Increasing both thresholds and caps for Angel Investment Tax Credit to attract investment
- Technology Jobs Tax Credit
- Headquarters Incentive
- Small Business Growth Incentive
- Renewable Energy Tax Credit
- Re-enactment of the GRT deduction for trade support companies
- Independent Tax and Revenue Hearing Officers
- HB94 Sales from directed energy and satellite-related inputs may be deducted from GRT

Oppose

- Unitary Corporation combined tax reporting

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

- The Chamber's position on a state-wide minimum wage increase is that if such an increase is passed, we support ensuring that the resulting increase will not make New Mexico less competitive than surrounding states in the region and that it is written in such a way as to protect small businesses.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Support

- Non-Partisan Judicial Elections

Questions? Call:

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New Mexico Chamber Executives Association

- Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce
- Angel Fire Chamber of Commerce
- Clovis/Curry County Chamber
- Gallup-McKinley County Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce
- Hobbs Chamber of Commerce
- Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Rio Rancho Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Roosevelt County Chamber of Commerce
- Silver City Grant County Chamber of Commerce