

# NEW MEXICO HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

KATE M. O'NEILL, ED.D  
CABINET SECRETARY

April 8, 2019

TO: Mark Saavedra, Council of University Presidents;  
Ty Trujillo, New Mexico Association of Community Colleges;  
Kathy Ulibarri, New Mexico Independent Community Colleges

SUBJECT: FY20 compensation in House Bill 2

Dear Colleagues,

This communication is in regards to language vetoes regarding compensation appropriations in the General Appropriations Act (being Laws 2019, Chapter 271). Pursuant to the language in Section 8 of the Act as directed through Governor Lujan Grisham's vetoes, all employees at public postsecondary institutions are to receive a four percent (4%) increase in compensation. Please notify your members of this determination as soon as possible.

As Cabinet Secretary I am keenly aware of the challenges this may present your institutions and that difficult decisions will have to be made. I assure you that I will continue to work with all of our higher education partners to educate our leaders in the Legislature and Governor's office on the difficulties inherent within the current compensation calculation methodology.

Thank you for your attention in this matter and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate O'Neill".

Kate O'Neill  
Cabinet Secretary