

“No notice legislative hearings & other maneuvers in Santa Fe...”

March 17, 2023



With less than two weeks left in the legislative session, it's clear that legislators who favor increasing taxes and government growth have control. Progressive Legislators in the House and the Senate are using their majority status to advance bills that will hurt our state. Just one example, SB 11 is a mandate for paid time off that would add a new tax on workers and employers that neither can afford.



SB 11 Paid Family Medical Leave Act, sponsored by Mimi Stewart, Michael Padilla, Christine Chandler, Linda Serrato, and Patricia Roybal Caballero mandates 12 weeks of paid time off (PTO). Both the employee and employer would have to pay a percentage of wages into this program. This is in addition to the 8 days of paid sick leave recently mandated (paid for by employers) and any other PTO an employer offers. **Working families and businesses are already struggling with the worst inflation in decades and this new TAX could be the last straw for many businesses.** With all Democrat Senators except for two voting for SB 11, it was passed on Saturday and is now being pushed through House committees. **See who voted for and against SB 11 HERE.**

We urge you to take 30 seconds HERE to make your voice heard!

Read more about the dangers of this bill HERE and HERE.



Democrat leaders are also pushing bills through the process that would degrade our election integrity - without proper public notice of hearings in some cases.

HB 4 Voting Rights Protections, sponsored by [Javier Martínez](#), [Gail Chasey](#), [Katy M. Duhigg](#), [D. Wonda Johnson](#), and [Raymundo Lara](#) would allow state agencies to 'automatically' register people without their knowledge or consent. This process opens the possibility that residents, who may not be citizens, are registered to vote.

Yesterday, at 12:46 pm, Sen [Joseph Cervantes](#), Chairman of the [Senate Judiciary Committee](#) placed HB 4 on the committee agenda for a meeting scheduled to begin at 1:30 pm (or 1/2 hour after the Senate floor session.) **That's less than one hour notice to the public and other committee members.** To add insult to injury, any member of the public who wants to make comments in this committee must send an email to Sen Cervantes' staff 24 hours in advance. **Having to send an email 24 hours in advance to speak with virtually no advance notice of when a bill is going to be in committee seems like an intentional attempt to exclude public input.** The ploy worked resulting in very limited public input and HB 4 passed the Senate Judiciary Committee with all Democrats voting 'YES' and all Republicans voting 'NO.' This bill has only one vote left on the Senate floor. **Please ask Senators to say NO to HB 4 by sending a quick email, [HERE](#).**

SB 180 Election Changes, sponsored by [Katy M. Duhigg](#), [Leo Jaramillo](#), [Gail Chasey](#). This bill would allow counties and the state to accept money from outside groups to influence our elections. **Nationwide, many states are stopping outside influence in their elections. Not only is New Mexico not doing the same, our progressive legislators are pushing to make it law! Please take 30 seconds to stop this bill, [HERE](#).**

If that's not bad enough, Rep [Wonda Johnson](#), chairwoman of the [House Government, Elections, and Indian Affairs Committee](#) is using a procedural maneuver to kill a bill that would improve election integrity. How? By not putting the bill on the committee agenda for debate.

HB 110 Voter ID Requirements, sponsored by [John Block](#) and [Mark Duncan](#) would mandate that those voting in-person need to provide a picture ID to vote. Those voting by mail would have the choice of either providing their ID or their social security number. Surveys nationwide and here in New Mexico indicate that a majority of voters - of any political party - favor requiring ID to vote. However, since this bill has not been put on the agenda for even one hearing, at this point in the session it has been



silently killed!

You can check the status of bills using the NMBC Bill Tracker [HERE](#) and take action on high-priority bills being considered [HERE](#). In addition to testifying in committee meetings, NMBC is sending letters to legislators in support of or in opposition to many bills. See the letters [HERE](#).

Business Spotlight: Great New Mexicans doing great things!



Small businesses truly are the backbone of our state's economy and NMBC is honored to partner with many important job providers and the services that they offer to our state, like [Monte's Cigar Shop](#).

Learn more about this incredible New Mexico small business [HERE](#).

Mark your calendars- *it's time to BASH!*



Our Post-Legislative BASH (Business and Social Hour) will be from 5-7PM, on Thursday, May 4, at

Revel Entertainment! Early-bird/discounted tickets are on sale now and are going fast!

Purchase your BASH tickets [HERE!](#)

Sponsors: [John Thomas Jewelers](#) & [Revel Entertainment](#)

*Want to see **your** business here next week? See our sponsorship options [HERE](#).*

We also have other great 2023 events in the works!

- **Summer BASH** - August 10 ; Sponsored by [John Thomas Jewelers](#).
- **2023 Heroes Event** - November 9

Click [HERE](#) for more information on Sponsorship opportunities.

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