

S 824 CESAR CHAVEZ COMMISSION AND HOLIDAY

April 9, 1997

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 32

I have this day VETOED and am returning SENATE BILL 824, as amended, with emergency clause and certificate of correction, enacted by the Forty-Third Legislature, First Session, 1997.

This legislation would establish Cesar E. Chavez Day as a designated legal state holiday on the last Saturday in March. State Personnel Policy states that when a legal state holiday falls on a Saturday, it will be celebrated on the preceding Friday. The addition of another legal state holiday would have a \$2.4 million impact on the state general fund. This administration recognizes the important contribution made by Cesar E. Chavez and thus, will recognize the man and his legacy by way of Executive Order. Moreover, the administration pledges to make certain this great man's accomplishments are afforded proper observance.

S 879 RIO GRANDE BOSQUE MANAGEMENT ACT

April 9, 1997

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 33

I have this day VETOED and am returning SENATE BILL 879, as amended, enacted by the Forty-Third Legislature, First Session, 1997.

This legislation addresses concerns associated with the unique and vital natural resource of the Rio Grande Bosque establishing: common bosque management principles, expanded use of mediation, establishment of an information clearinghouse, and other proposals, all of which would serve our common goal of better bosque management.

Unfortunately, Senate Bill 879 creates an unwieldy and large council consisting of 40 members. A mandated council of this size would place staff and resource demands on its members which would likely result in future appropriation requests from state government. Further, the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department has indicated Senate Bill 879 would cost the department at least \$225,000 per year and add two Full Time Equivalents (FTE) per year to fulfill the role required by the language of the bill.

The intent of this legislation can be carried out without the creation of such a large unfunded council. In the very near future this administration will initiate a series of meetings between interested parties to explore alternative means for improving Rio Grande Bosque management.