H 165 EXTEND GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TIME LIMIT FOR SCHOOLS

April 6, 2001

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 114

I have this day VETOED and am returning HOUSE BILL 165, as amended, enacted by the Forty-Fifth Legislature, First Session, 2001.

This bill would extend the time limit for the issuance of General Obligation bonds by certain school districts, counties and municipalities from three years to four years. I have vetoed this bill in the past and do so again because increasing the delay between the authorization and issuance of bonds would encourage inefficient use of the bonding authority. Voters should be able to see a direct connection between the projects they approve and their property tax levy. This proposal would further blur that connection and make it harder for voters to hold local officials responsible for proper financial management.

H 192 INCREASE TIRE RECYCLING FEES

April 5, 2001

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 70

I have this day VETOED and am returning HOUSE BILL 192, enacted by the Forty-Fifth Legislature, First Session, 2001.

This bill would raise registration fees on all vehicles by at least fifty cents. The revenue would go toward finding alternative uses for discarded tires.

The idea appears sound at first glance. Finding alternative uses for discarded tires extends the life of landfills and may create new industries here in New Mexico. We have tried this program before, enacting a fee approximately twice the size of this one in 1994. Results were at best mixed. In 1999, the Legislature converted these fees to paying bonds for highway construction and other road improvements.

We are being asked to increase taxes to renew a governmental program of indifferent results. Unless and until a stronger case can be made, I cannot approve taking more money from the public for this purpose.