



## REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO STATEMENT ON GOVERNOR LIFTING INDOOR MASK MANDATE

**Albuquerque, February 17**—The following is a statement from Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Steve Pearce on Gov. Lujan Grisham ending the indoor mask mandate this afternoon:

“This is nothing but political expediency. Less than two hours after suffering her legislative defeats, including election bills, her hydrogen hub plan and the Clean Fuel Standard Act, the Governor suddenly decides it’s time to lift her mask mandate. The politics can’t be clearer. The Governor should have lifted this mandate months ago. This was long overdue. Her mask mandate has adversely impacted New Mexicans’ lives, particularly students, who have had to suffer under her impulsive orders. Despite the number of COVID cases falling, Lujan Grisham refused to act appropriately, relying on her unproven science and mystery advisors to keep the unnecessary mandate in place. Even blue states had recognized it was time to take off the masks and accept that we must return to normalcy. Lujan Grisham is wishy-washy and is always twisting in the polling winds.”