



## REPUBLICANS KILL MAJOR ELECTION OVERHAUL LEGISLATION THAT WOULD HAVE WEAKENED BALLOT SECURITY AND DAMAGED ELECTION INTEGRITY

**Albuquerque, February 17**—Republican lawmakers in the House and Senate have succeeded in blocking a major Election Overhaul bill that would have endangered the integrity of New Mexico elections and opened the door to potential fraud.

Republicans used procedural moves and convincing arguments to ensure Senate Bill 144 did not pass in the legislature.

Progressive Democrats had tried to push SB 144 in an effort to “expand voter access” but it was, in fact, a calculated push that would have seriously weakened election laws and enabled people to cheat and commit fraud.

Throughout the legislative session, Democrats had promoted several bills that would have:

- allowed 16 year-olds to vote
- established a permanent absentee voting list
- required unsolicited backend voter registration
- distributed your personal information to third parties without your permission
- allowed felons voting rights before they paid their debts to society
- required drop boxes in all counties—inviting ballot harvesting

- allowed ballots to be mailed out without an application request

Republicans worked hard during the session and were successful in making sure these election bill provisions didn't pass. GOP lawmakers stood firm in their efforts to ensure election security.

"The fact that these dangerous election bills were prevented from passing is a testament to the dedication, hard work and integrity of our Republican Representatives and Senators in the Roundhouse," said Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Steve Pearce. "The Democrats will do anything to move the goalposts and give them a political edge in elections. Their election legislation would have weakened ballot security, opened the door to ballot harvesting, promoted fraudulent ballots and hurt the integrity of our elections. Our GOP lawmakers should be commended."

RPNM will always promote fair and honest elections and will continue to fight for election security and integrity.