

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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DR. VERONICA C. GARCÍA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

April 8, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents, Charter School Administrators

FROM: Dr. Veronica C. García (signature on file)
Secretary of Education

RE: NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT CARDS

On March 25, 2009, Governor Richardson vetoed House Bill 237 (“Change Report Card Publication Date”). The bill would have changed the annual publication date of the School District Report Card from November 15th to a date to be determined by the Public Education Department through rulemaking; the bill would also have required only a notice of the report card’s availability to be published in a newspaper of general circulation and to have specified how and where copies of that report card could be obtained.

The Governor’s veto message correctly concluded that not publishing the report cards would narrow the dissemination of information needed for the comprehensive community scrutiny that was required by Section 22-2C-11 of state law. That law is still valid law and must be complied with as it always has. I am informed that a few of you have implemented creative ways of disseminating your district’s report card not strictly in accordance with the law.

Please be aware that the only acceptable way to publish your annual report card in compliance with the referenced state law is to publish its contents *in their entirety* by November 15th of each year in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where your school district is located.

Thank you for your cooperation and for the hard work that you all do everyday!

VCG/WRB

cc: PED Executive Team