
20 Ways in 20 Days Way 10 Day



20 ways New Mexicans will be hurt by more budget cuts

Potential Cut: A 4 percent cut to the modest budget of the state's Department of Veterans' Services would be \$137,000, but it would mean a loss of much more in federal funding.

Potential Consequences: The state's Department of Veterans' Services helps New Mexico's 180,000 veterans get the benefits they have earned.¹ In addition to federal VA medical benefits, this includes behavioral health care, services for homeless vets, and many other programs to help those who have sacrificed for and served our country. This could lead to veterans missing out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in benefits. This not only hurts the veterans, it also hurts the state's economy. Most of these benefits bring federal funds into the state; funds that add to the New Mexico economy and help limit the effects of the recession in our state.

A Better Choice: A balanced approach that includes raising revenues is the best strategy for recovering from the recession.

Legislators have a clear choice: they can make deeper, more damaging cuts in the funding that helps New Mexico veterans or they can choose a balanced approach—one that doesn't lay all the sacrifice on working families *and* that offers a sensible, long-term solution.

It's time to make the **Better Choice for New Mexico**.

First things First, New Mexico. Tell our Legislature: **Don't balance the budget on the backs of New Mexico's working families.** Instead, open the books on tax breaks for special interests, close the loopholes for out-of-state corporations, and rollback tax cuts for the wealthy.

Visit **Better Choices New Mexico** on facebook.com for more information about the group and specific revenue generators.

¹ <http://www.dvs.state.nm.us/>

- AMERICA VOTES EDUCATION AND ACTION FUND
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- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
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- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS NEW MEXICO
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- CENTER FOR CIVIC POLICY
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- COMMUNITY ACTION NM
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- CONSERVATION VOTERS NM
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- COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
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- DRUG POLICY ALLIANCE NM
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- FAMILIES AND YOUTH, INC.
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- HEALTH ACTION NEW MEXICO
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- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS
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- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NM
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- LUTHERAN ADVOCACY MINISTRY
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- NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION NEW MEXICO
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- NM ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
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- NM CENTER ON LAW AND POVERTY
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- NM CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
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- NM COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS
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- NM CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES
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- NM EARLY CHILDHOOD ALLIANCE
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- NM PROGRESSIVE ACTION
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- NEW MEXICO SOLUTIONS
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- NM VOICES FOR CHILDREN
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- NM YOUTH PROVIDERS ALLIANCE
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- RESULTS – SANTA FE
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- SANTA FE ALLIANCE
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- SOUTHWEST ORGANIZING PROJECT