



**RPNM: GOVERNOR'S PETTY REBATES TO OFFSET GAS PRICES
A POLITICAL STUNT AND AN INSULT TO HURTING NEW
MEXICANS WHO HAVE LOST BUSINESSES AND LIVELIHOODS**

*SPECIAL SESSION A CONVENIENT, TIMELY AND SNEAKY
MANEUVER FOR LUJAN GRISHAM'S POLITICAL GAIN*



Albuquerque, April 5—The Republican Party of New Mexico is dismayed but not surprised that Gov. Lujan Grisham and progressive Democrats tonight approved small tax rebates disguised as “economic relief” for New Mexicans.

The Governor should receive a Tony Award for her blatant political theater and her artful deception of the public.

She boasts about \$500 fuel rebates for individuals and \$1,000 for married couples as if she's solved the financial pains of New Mexicans. These petty rebates are a cold slap in the face to the citizens of our great state who have suffered tremendous hardship over the past few years under her administration. It costs about \$100 for a couple to fill up their gas tank, so the rebates will mean 10 trips to the pumps.

“These rebates are another manipulative move by the Governor and amount to bribery for votes,” said Kim Skaggs, RPNM’s Executive Director. “She has destroyed 40% of our businesses in New Mexico and caused severe financial pain for citizens and families. Now she thinks she can make up for that by handing out \$1,000 checks. That’s disrespectful and an insult. Shame on her.”

It’s not a coincidence that these rebate checks are slated to be delivered *around the June Primary* and in August *before the November election*. These fuel rebates promoted by Lujan Grisham are simply political expediency and an act of desperation.

Under Lujan Grisham, New Mexico has lost hundreds of businesses, thousands of jobs and continues to lack real opportunity for its citizens. The Governor’s petty rebates will be handed out with a smile, but people, particularly in our rural communities, will continue to suffer. These rebates are nothing but a politically-timed band-aid for New Mexicans unable to cope with the ongoing brutal inflation caused by progressive policies here and around the nation.

It’s all about mollifying New Mexicans. It’s all about her reelection.

“There’s no limit to what Lujan Grisham will do to get reelected, and she is deluding New Mexicans by thinking these rebates will compensate for the huge financial destruction she has caused for our citizens,” said Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Steve Pearce. “She couldn’t get her Clean Fuel Standard Act passed in the legislature—something that would have raised gas prices—and now she does an about-face and calls for a fuel *rebate*. She’ll do anything to dupe the public to get her way or to get herself votes. Politically she’s on the ropes and desperate to get into the public’s favor. She is trying to appease New Mexicans with money and will do anything to keep her job.”

The Governor also made a terrible miscalculation in vetoing an important appropriations bill, and she and lawmakers had to fix that.