N.M. congressional map becomes law

Written by gallupsun Friday, 17 December 2021 11:19

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed the new congressional map approved by the New Mexico Legislature Dec. 17.

It updates the boundaries of the state's three congressional districts based on 2020 Census data.

According to the New Mexico House of Representatives, the map is a "nearly 90 percent reflection" of what was called the "People's Map," produced by an independent Citizens Redistricting Committee.

"The people's elected representatives in the New Mexico Legislature have spoken with respect to data-driven and representative new congressional boundaries," Lujan Grisham said. "It is my duty to ratify the will of the majority here, which I believe has established a reasonable baseline for competitive federal elections, in which no one party or candidate may claim any undue advantage.

"New Mexico is a vast and diverse state, with both rural and urban communities and interests that span the spectrum politically and economically," she continued. "We must honor the ideals of American democracy by doing everything we can to ensure a level playing field, reflecting what is unique about New Mexico, on which these good faith interests may compete for political representation."

The Congressional map was sponsored by Rep. Georgene Louis, D-Albuquerque, Sen. Joseph Cervantes, D-Las Cruces and Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto, D-Albuquerque.

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The governor also signed House Bill 9, updating the districts of the state Public Education Commission.