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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Let juveniles have chance at parole

Feb 10, 2022

Over the past two decades, advances in neuroscience have showed the process of brain maturation is not complete until at least age 26. The prefrontal cortex is an area of the brain that is responsible for a variety of executive functions including decisionmaking, impulse control and emotional regulation. The developmental immaturity of the prefrontal cortex may contribute to behaviors that lead to contact with the juvenile justice system. Senate Bill 43 sponsored by Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez will prohibit the sentencing juveniles who are tried as adults to life in prison without parole.

As pediatricians who care for adolescents and young adults, including incarcerated juveniles, we urge quick passage of this bill.

**Dr. Chloe Stoffel**

**Dr. Andrew Hsi**

**Dr. Laurence Shandler**

New Mexico Pediatric Society

## A broad brush

Rep. Rod Montoya: You don't know me but claim to ("Progressive values attempt to divide us," My View Jan. 30). Your broad brush of my intentions as a white, rich (not), liberal (not always) progressive (sometimes) is offensive. Your comments on Speaker Brian Egolf and Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth are offensive, too. Their connection to traditional New Mexico? Same as yours — to make New Mexico a better place to live. The progressive and well-meaning Democrats living in your district have my sympathy.