



Consideration of Lea County Resolution No. 22-FEB-030R Opposing the 2021 Adopted New Mexico Congressional Districts

Article One of the United States Constitution establishes the United States House of Representatives, primarily apportioning its members based on population, with reapportionment occurring every ten years after the decennial United States census.

In 2021 the New Mexico legislature created the Citizen Redistricting Committee (CRC) to develop as one of its duties Congressional District maps that allow New Mexico voters to choose their representatives, not the other way around.

The New Mexico legislature ignored the recommendations of the CRC and adopted its own Congressional Districts and for the first time since New Mexico has had three members of the U.S. House of Representatives, more than 40 years, divided Lea County and its largest municipality into two separate Congressional districts, making all three Congressional Districts more favorable to the political party now in control of all three branches of state government and ignoring the community of interests criterion, just as the Speaker of the New Mexico House of Representatives implied after the 2020 elections the legislature would do.

The Board of County Commissioners of Lea County believes the Congressional Redistricting map drawn by the politicians of the New Mexico legislature and signed into law by the New Mexico governor are unconstitutional and ignore the community and interests of Southeastern New Mexico.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LEA
RESOLUTION NO. 22-FEB-030R

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE 2021 ADOPTED NEW MEXICO CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, Article One of the United States Constitution establishes the United States House of Representatives, primarily apportioning its members based on population, with reapportionment occurring every ten years after the decennial United States census; *and*

WHEREAS, in 2021 the New Mexico legislature created the Citizen Redistricting Committee (CRC) to develop as one of its duties Congressional District maps that allow New Mexico voters to choose their representatives, not the other way around; *and*

WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature ignored the recommendations of the CRC and adopted its own Congressional Districts and for the first time since New Mexico has had three members of the U.S. House of Representatives, more than 40 years, divided Lea County and its largest municipality into two separate Congressional districts, making all three Congressional Districts more favorable to the political party now in control of all three branches of state government and ignoring the community of interests criterion, just as the Speaker of the New Mexico House of Representatives implied after the 2020 elections the legislature would do.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Lea County that it believes the Congressional Redistricting map drawn by the politicians of the New Mexico legislature and signed into law by the New Mexico governor are unconstitutional and ignore the community and interests of Southeastern New Mexico.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 3rd day of February, 2022, by the Lea County Board of County Commissioners in an open meeting in Lovington, New Mexico.

LEA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Dean Jackson (District 1), Chair
Voted: Yes No Abstain

Gary G. Eidson (District 3), Vice Chair
Voted: Yes No Abstain

Rebecca Long (District 2), Member
Voted: Yes No Abstain

Jonathan Sena (District 4), Member
Voted: Yes No Abstain

LEGAL

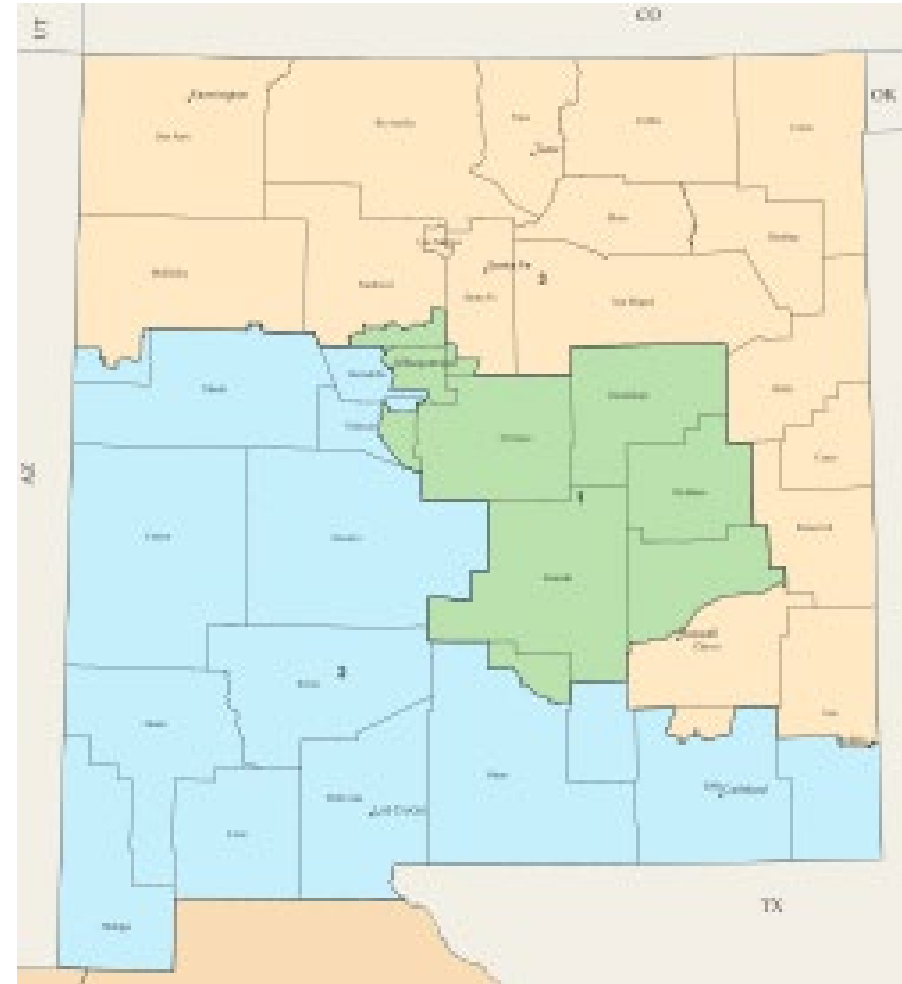
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Previous



Adopted 2021





**LEA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY FORM**

LCBCC Meeting Date: Thursday, February 3, 2022

Submit this summary form & all attachments to the Finance Director clow@leacounty.net & cc the Executive Coordinator sstout@leacounty.net by: **Monday, January 24, 2022**

County Manager Approval mgallagher@leacounty.net required for all time sensitive issues that do not meet the above deadline.

DATE SUBMITTED mm-dd-yyyy:	SUBMITTED BY Name, Title, Dept: Rebecca Long, Commissioner, District 2
SUBJECT: Oppose the 2021 Adopted New Mexico Congressional Districts	ATTACHMENT(S): Resolution
NO. OF ORIGINALS FOR SIGNATURE: 1 Resolution	ACTION REQUESTED: Action Item
BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER: N/A	FISCAL BUDGET YEAR: N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN Implementation of 5 Year Strategic Plan:
Section 2.1: Collaboration & partnership with local communities, agencies and government entities is essential for success.
Section 2.8: Continuous interaction with the State of New Mexico and statewide organizations is required to protect the County's interests.

SUMMARY:
Article One of the United States Constitution establishes the United States House of Representatives, primarily apportioning its members based on population, with reapportionment occurring every ten years after the decennial United States census.
In 2021 the New Mexico legislature created the Citizen Redistricting Committee (CRC) to develop as one of its duties Congressional District maps that allow New Mexico voters to choose their representatives, not the other way around.

See Next Page

Requested Items Needed for Presentation Easels/Laptop/Projector/Etc.: Easel <input type="checkbox"/> If checked, how many: Laptop <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Projector <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:	See Additional Summary Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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SUBMITTER'S RECOMMENDATION(S): Approve Resolution Opposing the 2021 Adopted New Mexico Congressional Districts	Submitter's Signature Department Director, Etc.
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FINANCE REVIEW Fiscal Impact/Cost:	Reviewed by Finance Director
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LEGAL REVIEW: (Note: Travel does not need legal review)	Reviewed by County Attorney
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COUNTY MANAGER REVIEW:	Approved by County Manager to be Placed on Agenda
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Item No. <u>0105</u> RECORDING SECRETARY'S USE ONLY ~ COMMISSION ACTION TAKEN		
Approved: _____ Resolution No. <u>22-FEB-030R</u> Continued To: _____	Denied: _____ Policy No. _____ Referred To: _____	Other: _____ Ordinance No. _____ Comments: _____

Summary Form Continued...

The New Mexico legislature ignored the recommendations of the CRC and adopted its own Congressional Districts and for the first time since New Mexico has had three members of the U.S. House of Representatives, more than 40 years, divided Lea County and its largest municipality into two separate Congressional districts, making all three Congressional Districts more favorable to the political party now in control of all three branches of state government and ignoring the community of interests criterion, just as the Speaker of the New Mexico House of Representatives implied after the 2020 elections the legislature would do.

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Rebecca Long (District 2), Member
Voted: Yes No Abstain

Jonathan Sena (District 4), Member
Voted: Yes No Abstain

Pat Sims (District 5), Member
Voted: Yes No Abstain

ATTEST: Keith Manes
Lea County Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL
SUFFICIENCY:**

By: _____
Teri Davis, Deputy Clerk

John W. Caldwell, County Attorney