

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LEA
RESOLUTION NO. 22-FEB-029R**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NEW MEXICO COUNTIES 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Counties Board of Directors approved three legislative priorities for consideration by the New Mexico Legislature at its 2022 session; *and*

WHEREAS, NMC has requested that the Board of County Commissioners in each of the state's 33 counties discuss and approve support for NMC's legislative priorities as an important step in assuring maximum understanding of NMC's legislative priorities at the county level; *and*

WHEREAS, county support enables NMC to demonstrate strong local and statewide support to the state legislature for the following issues:

1. HB 2 Appropriations

Detention Reimbursement Fund

Restore the County Detention Facility Reimbursement Act to the original appropriation of \$5 million. Currently, the NM Legislature appropriates only \$2.3 million, even though the NM Sentencing Commission estimates the state owes counties over \$8 million dollars a year for holding state prisoners in county jails.

Prisoner Transport and Extradition

Create a line item in the NM Department of Finance & Administration budget with \$750,000 to reimburse counties that provide transportation for state prisoners. Statutes require the state to make such payments, however no money has been appropriated to counties for many years. Counties should not be responsible to pay for state prisoner extradition.

RISE Funding

Make permanent and increase county participation in the RISE (Reach, Intervene, Support and Engage) Program. RISE is a partnership between the NM Behavioral Health Services Division and a few county jails to reduce recidivism and make sure non-violent offenders get the treatment they need to stay out of jail. As we start to see more concrete results, we hope to be able to add more counties and jails into that partnership.

2. Law Enforcement Protection Fund

The state imposes taxes on insurance policies every year to pay for things like improved fire services and protecting law enforcement officers. Every year millions of dollars have been taken from those funds to help pay for other areas in state government. We fixed the fire fund over the last few years, now we need to keep the state from taking money from the Law Enforcement Protection Fund. The last \$5 or \$6 million dollars that now goes back into the general fund should be going to local law enforcement agencies to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement services.

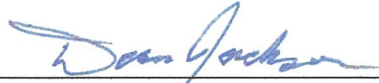
3. Courthouse Funding

Create a matching fund that would help counties pay for construction and renovation of state district courthouses. The fund would begin with a capital outlay request of \$50 million to \$100 million. This is another unfunded county mandate we would like to alleviate in to the future.

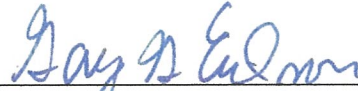
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lea Board of County Commissioners does hereby support NMC's legislative priorities as set forth above, and urges that legislation incorporating these priorities be enacted by the state legislature during its 2022 regular session.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th day of February, 2022, by the Lea County Board of County Commissioners in an open meeting in Lovington, New Mexico.

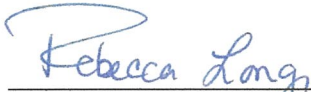
LEA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



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



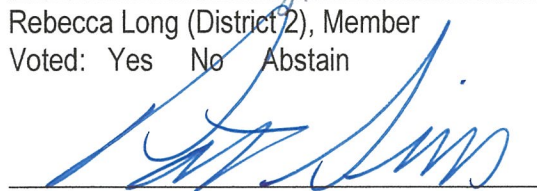
Gary G. Eidson (District 3), Vice Chair
Voted: Yes No Abstain



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



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



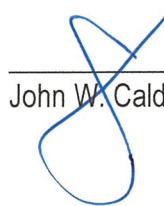
Pat Sims (District 5), Member
Voted: Yes No Abstain

ATTEST: Keith Manes
Lea County Clerk

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



By: Terri Davis, Deputy Clerk



John W. Caldwell, County Attorney

