



VALENCIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 2018 - SR

**A Resolution Supporting the 2019 Legislative Priorities of
New Mexico Counties**

WHEREAS, the Valencia County Commission met upon notice of meeting duly published on September 5, 2018 at 5:00 P.M. in the Valencia County Administration Building, 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031; and

WHEREAS, in August 2018, the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Counties approved five legislative priorities for consideration by the New Mexico Legislature at its 2018 regular legislative session; *and*

WHEREAS, NMC has requested that the Board of County Commissioners in each of the state's 33 counties discuss and approve a resolution supporting NMC's legislative priorities; *and*

WHEREAS, this is an important step in assuring maximum understanding of, and support for, NMC's legislative priorities at the county level; *and*

WHEREAS, the adoption of such resolutions will enable NMC to demonstrate to the state legislature strong local and statewide support for NMC's legislative priorities; *and*

WHEREAS, the legislative priorities include support for legislation on the following five issues:

- **Appropriations**
 - **Detention Reimbursement Fund.** Restore funding for the County Detention Facilities Reimbursement Act to the original appropriation level of \$5 million.
 - **Prisoner Transport and Extradition.** Create a line item in the DFA budget for \$750,000 to reimburse sheriff's offices that provide transportation of state prisoners. Statute 4-44-18C NMSA authorizes the state to make such payment. Counties should not be responsible to pay for state prisoner extradition.
 - **EMS Funding.** Appropriate \$5 million dollars annually to the Emergency Medical Services Fund in the Department of Health budget and identify a designated revenue mechanism to provide continuous fund growth and stability.
- **Behavioral Health.** Require the New Mexico Human Services Department to ensure the provision of comprehensive services to nonviolent adult and juvenile offenders, housed with the

department of corrections or in a county detention center, who have a serious mental illness including co-occurring substance use disorders. Services shall include targeted, individualized interventions that address those persons' behavioral health needs while they are incarcerated and connect them to resources and services immediately upon release that reduce the likelihood of recidivism, detention, and incarceration, such as supportive housing, public assistance, medical assistance, behavioral health treatment, and employment training.

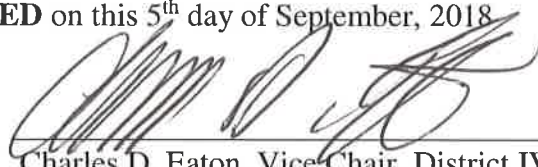
- **Tax Reform.** NMC supports tax reform efforts that improve economic efficiency, economic development, ease of administration, and overall fairness of the state and local tax system. NMC strongly believes that counties must participate in all efforts to restructure and reform the state and local tax system. NMC also opposes legislation that has a significant negative impact on county revenue.
- **Fire Protection Fund.** Remove the State Fire Marshal's Office and Fire Protection Fund from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission with the goal of improving public safety services through increased advocacy and communication with fire services statewide.
- **Forfeiture Act Reform.** Address unintended consequences of the 2015 amendments to the New Mexico Forfeiture Act by fixing the confusion around abandoned property, providing for reimbursement to local law enforcement agencies for the costs of storage and disposal of seized property, and extending due process protections to local DWI vehicle seizures. This legislation will not include the limited equitable sharing provisions contained in the 2017 and 2018 bills.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Valencia County Board of County Commissioners does hereby support the legislative priorities of the New Mexico Counties as set forth above, and urges that legislation incorporating these priorities be enacted by the state legislature during its 2019 regular session.

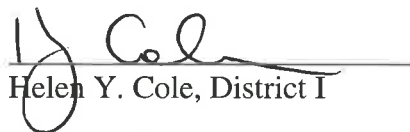
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 5th day of September, 2018



Jhonathan Aragon, Chair, District V



Charles D. Eaton, Vice Chair, District IV




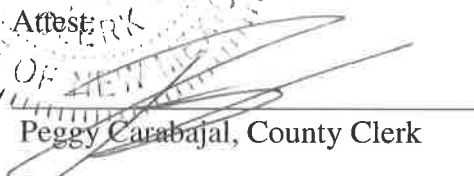
Helen Y. Cole, District I



David Carlberg, District II



David A. Hyder, District III


SEAL
Attest:


Peggy Carabajal, County Clerk



2019 Legislative Priorities

FOR THE 54th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

On August 2, 2018, the New Mexico Counties (NMC) Board of Directors approved five legislative priorities for consideration by the New Mexico Legislature at its 2019 legislative session. NMC requests that each Board of County Commission support the following five NMC 2019 legislative priorities as a demonstration of a strong united front in the state legislature.

HB 2 Appropriations

Detention Reimbursement Fund

Restore funding for the County Detention Facilities Reimbursement Act to the original appropriation level of \$5 million.

Prisoner Transport and Extradition

Create a line item in the DFA budget for \$750,000 to reimburse sheriff's offices that provide transportation of state prisoners. Statute 4-44-18C NMSA authorizes the state to make such payment. Counties should not be responsible to pay for state prisoner extradition.

EMS Funding

Appropriate \$5 million dollars annually to the Emergency Medical Services Fund in the Department of Health budget and identify a designated revenue mechanism to provide continuous fund growth and stability.

Behavioral Health

Require the New Mexico Human Services Department to ensure the provision of comprehensive services to nonviolent adult and juvenile offenders, housed with the department of corrections or in a county detention center, who have a serious mental illness including co-occurring substance use disorders. Services shall include targeted, individualized interventions that address those persons' behavioral health needs while they are incarcerated and connect them to resources and services immediately upon release that reduce the likelihood of recidivism, detention, and incarceration, such as supportive housing, public assistance, medical assistance, behavioral health treatment, and employment training.

Tax Reform

NMC supports tax reform efforts that improve economic efficiency, economic development, ease of administration, and overall fairness of the state and local tax system. NMC strongly believes that counties must participate in all efforts to restructure and reform the state and local tax system. NMC also opposes legislation that has a significant negative impact on county revenue.

Fire Protection Fund

Remove the State Fire Marshal's Office and Fire Protection Fund from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission with the goal of improving public safety services through increased advocacy and communication with fire services statewide.

Forfeiture Act Reform

Address unintended consequences of the 2015 amendments to the New Mexico Forfeiture Act by fixing the confusion around abandoned property, providing for reimbursement to local law enforcement agencies for the costs of storage and disposal of seized property, and extending due process protections to local DWI vehicle seizures. This legislation will not include the limited equitable sharing provisions contained in the 2017 and 2018 bills.

County

County Commission Chair

Date

Please send a signed copy of the NMC 2019 legislative priorities to Aelysea Webb, awebb@nmcounties.org.