

SANTA FE COUNTY

Resolution No. 1999-57

1633346

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE UNITED NATIONS FOR ITS SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF NEEDED REFORMS AND REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AUTHORIZE AND APPROPRIATE MONEYS TO PAY FOR AMOUNTS OWED TO UNITED NATIONS BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, during the past decade, the United States Congress, in an effort to help build a better functioning, more effective United Nations for the coming millennium, has urged the United Nations to take meaningful steps towards reforming itself by: reducing inefficiencies, streamlining the organization, eliminating budgetary growth, reducing Secretariat staff, working to reduce United Nations costs borne by the United States, refocusing development efforts in support of open trade and free markets and taking on new and emerging global scale challenges like drug trafficking, crime, terrorism and environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, a strong and effective United Nations, according to the Council of Foreign Relations, remains an important part of a strong and effective American foreign policy as it has been since its founding in 1945; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations has made demonstrable progress and shown good faith in moving to comply with American requests by:

Reducing its staff by more than 20% in the past decade, eliminating more than 3,000 positions in the United Nations Secretariat, including 1,000 in the past several years; and

Adopting a no-growth budget since 1994, and reducing the United Nations regular budget by \$123 million in its most recent budget cycle; and

Appointing an Inspector General to root out waste, fraud and abuse, saving more than \$80 million and also numerous improvements in organizational operations; and

Consolidating a wide variety of functions, including more than 12 Secretariat departments executive units; and

Appointing an Efficiency Board, akin to the United States Reinventing Government's initiative, that has resulted in hundreds of efficiency improvements and millions of dollars in savings; and

Attracting dynamic, new leaders to head key United Nations agencies and improve overall management of the United Nations system.

WHEREAS, with the end of the Cold War and the rapid growth of economic globalization, the United Nations is more important than ever as a forum for peace, progress and prosperity; particularly as the international institution capable of bringing all nations together to set basic standards that are prerequisites to trade (e.g. standards for telecommunications, transportation and mail); work together on common global challenges like terrorism and the drug trade; promote the health and well-being of the world's children; uphold basic human rights; feed the hungry, respond to natural disasters; develop peacekeeping operations and mediate conflict; and address global health challenges like polio, malaria and malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, the Executive and Legislative branches of the United States have suggested that United Nations reform would effectuate payment of United States past dues, which the United States is legally bound to honor and which now total more than \$1 billion (or approximately one year of operations for the United Nations Secretariat).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY that in recognition of the rapidly increasing importance of the United Nations to the future stability of the world, and to the future security and prosperity of the United States and other nations, and in recognition of the United Nations marked progress and good faith work toward complying with the United States reform requests, the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners, does hereby commend the United States Congress for its role in helping to reform the United Nations, and commend the United Nations for its successful implementation of these important and needed reforms, and therefore does hereby petition the United States Congress to authorize and appropriate moneys sufficient to pay amounts owed by the United States to the United Nations, now in arrears, and in addition that the transfer of these funds to the United Nations be authorized by Congress in the current budget cycle.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED this 27th day of April, 1999.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Joe Grine Jr.
+ Paul Duran, Chairman JOE GRINE JR.
Vice Chair



Rebecca Bustamante
Rebecca Bustamante, County Clerk



1071.833
COUNTY OF SANTA FE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
I hereby certify that this instrument was filed
for record on the 28 day of Apr. AD.
19 99, at 12:03 o'clock P.m.
and was duly recorded in book 1633
page 346-347 of the records of
Santa Fe County.

Approved as to form:

Denice Brown
Denice Brown, County Attorney

Witness my Hand and Seal of Office
Rebecca Bustamante
County Clerk, Santa Fe County, N.M.
Manilla Salazar
Deputy