

Henry P. Roybal  
*Commissioner, District 1*

Anna Hansen  
*Commissioner, District 2*

Ed Moreno  
*Commissioner, District 5*



Robert A. Anaya  
*Commissioner, District 3*

Anna T. Hamilton  
*Commissioner, District 4*

Katherine Miller  
*County Manager*

## M E M O R A N D U M

**DATE:** November 20, 2017

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**VIA:** Katherine Miller, Santa Fe County Manager

**FROM:** Maria Rotunda, Constituent Services Liaison, District 2

**RE: A Resolution In Support Of The Appropriation Of Funds By The New Mexico Legislature For The "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits And Fresh Vegetables For School Meals Program"**

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### SUMMARY

This resolution supports the appropriation of funds by the New Mexico Legislature for the "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for School Meals Program."

### BACKGROUND

More than 16,000 students in Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe participate in the school meal program. Increasing consumption of healthy food is a priority in the *Santa Fe County Health Action Plan*, including improving the numbers of adolescents within the County consuming five or more fresh fruits and vegetables a day. Increased funding from the State Legislature enables school meal programs and local school districts to purchase New Mexico grown produce, serve more fresh fruits and vegetables to our children for their health and well-being, and support economic development and opportunities for our local farmers.

### ACTION REQUESTED

Commissioners Roybal and Hansen request that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County pass this resolution and join with the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy, New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council, New Mexico School Nutrition Association, and other agencies and organizations, in requesting that the New Mexico State Legislature appropriate \$1.44 million to support the "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for School Meals" program.



**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SANTA FE COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-\_\_\_\_\_**

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**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS BY THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE FOR THE "NEW MEXICO GROWN FRESH FRUITS AND FRESH VEGETABLES FOR SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM"**

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**WHEREAS**, more than 28.6 percent of kindergarteners and 34 percent of third graders in New Mexico are considered overweight or obese; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 340,000 students are enrolled in New Mexico schools and can participate in the school meal programs operated by various schools throughout the state, and more than 241,400 of these students -- 71 percent -- are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 16,000 students in Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe participate in the school meal program; and

**WHEREAS**, the National School Lunch Program makes it possible for all school children in the United States to receive a nutritious lunch every school day; and

**WHEREAS**, local school meal programs have seen increased costs for food purchases of an average of 25 cents to 75 cents per meal, with fruits and vegetables representing as much as a quarter of the increased cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the National School Lunch Program provides a reimbursement of \$3.31 for free lunches, \$2.91 for reduced-priced lunches, and \$0.39 for fully paid lunches; and

**WHEREAS**, the National School Lunch Program provides a reimbursement of \$2.09 for free breakfasts, \$1.79 for reduced-price breakfasts, and \$0.30 for fully paid breakfasts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe County Community Services Department is implementing an Accountable Health Community, with the vision that that all County residents, regardless of income, have access to high-quality health care and are linked to resources they need for health and well-being, including food; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing consumption of healthy food is a priority in the *Santa Fe County Health Action Plan*, including improving the numbers of adolescents within the County consuming five or more fresh fruits and vegetables a day; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of New Mexico grown fruits and vegetables will enhance the diet of school children and help school meal programs comply with Federal rules that require additional servings of fruits and vegetables on the children's school meal plates; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an agricultural sector made up of small and medium-size fruit and vegetable farmers that can respond to this new food "market" for local produce in the school meal programs; and

**WHEREAS**, increased funding from the State Legislature enables school meal programs and local school districts to purchase New Mexico grown produce, serve more fresh fruits and vegetables to our children for their health and well-being, and support economic development and opportunities for our local farmers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County join with the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy, New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council, New Mexico School Nutrition Association, and other agencies and organizations, in requesting that the New Mexico State Legislature appropriate \$1.44 million to support the "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for School Meals" program.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of December, 2017.


**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Henry P. Roybal, Chair

**Attest:**

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Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

**Approved as to Form:**

  
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R. Bruce Frederick, County Attorney



