

SANTA FE COUNTY
Resolution No. 2007- 61

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FEDERAL PROGRAM –
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (“PILT”)**

WHEREAS, the federal program known as Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) provides Federal payments to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands within their boundaries;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County (“the BCC”) are in support of Payments in Lieu of Taxes;

WHEREAS, Federal law recognizes that the inability of local governments to collect property taxes on Federally-owned land can fiscally impact a local government;

WHEREAS, PILT payments help local governments carry out such vital services as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, education, solid waste disposal, healthcare, parks and recreation, and search-and-rescue operations;

WHEREAS, PILT payments are made annually for tax-exempt Federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and for Federal water projects and some military installations;

WHEREAS, PILT payments are one of the ways that the Federal government can fulfill its role of being a “good neighbor” to local communities;

WHEREAS, the PILT program is vital to New Mexico county governments because 33% of the land in our state is federally owned (22.5 million acres);

WHEREAS, New Mexico received about 2.3 million dollars annually under the PILT program, which expired last year;

WHEREAS, the current proposal for permanent PILT funding removes the funding from the annual appropriations process, instead ensuring that full-funding is automatic through 2012;

WHEREAS, full-funding for PILT would provide about a 35 percent increase in total funding for the PILT program;

WHEREAS, thirty-two New Mexico counties have received PILT payments;

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WHEREAS, payments to New Mexico counties should go from less than \$3.0 million to more than \$20 million under the proposed permanent funding program for PILT;

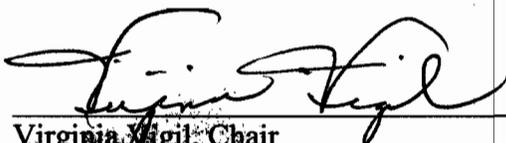
WHEREAS, New Mexico was the number one beneficiary of the PILT program, receiving 22.8 million dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BCC strongly supports legislation that will provide Santa Fe County and the State of New Mexico with full payment of PILT monies;

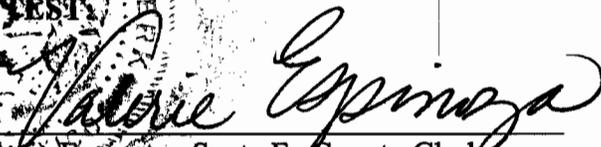
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BCC urges the Governor, the New Mexico State Legislature, and all counties in the great state of New Mexico to work together to support permanent funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED, this 10th day of April 2007.

SANTA FE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Virginia Vigil, Chair





Valerie Espinoza, Santa Fe County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 12TH Day Of April, A.D., 2007 at 16:27 And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1478555 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
 Valerie Espinoza
Deputy County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM