

# SANTA FE COUNTY

## Resolution No. 2009 - 221

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**A RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW MEXICO STATE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE LOCAL LIQUOR EXCISE TAX ACT TO AUTHORIZE ALL NEW MEXICO COUNTIES TO IMPOSE A LOCAL LIQUOR TAX UPON APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL VOTERS AND TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE TAX PROCEEDS TO FUND SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS SERVING PERSONS IMPACTED BY ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE.**

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**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), lower prices on alcohol are associated with increased levels and frequency of drinking, particularly among underage persons; and

**WHEREAS**, aside from providing a source of new revenue, increasing taxes on alcohol will deter underage use, reduce traffic-crash fatalities and certain crimes, and decrease alcohol-related health problems such as cirrhosis; and

**WHEREAS**, most New Mexico counties are struggling to find resources to fund programs to combat problems resulting from alcohol and substance abuse but even small increases in taxes would translate into significant new revenues for domestic violence programs, rape crisis programs, trauma programs (as in auto accidents), treatment programs and DWI programs; and

**WHEREAS**, 70% of documented cases of domestic and sexual violence involved alcohol and other drugs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Liquor Excise Tax Act (Sections 7-24-8 through 7-24-16 NMSA 1978) authorizes, upon approval of a majority of the voters at a regular or special election, the imposition of a local liquor excise tax not to exceed five percent on any retailer for alcoholic beverages in Class B counties having a population of more than 56,000 but less than 75,000 and having a net taxable value of more than \$500,000,000 and less than \$700,000,000 (currently only McKinley County and San Juan County); and

**WHEREAS**, the Act authorizes the use of these tax proceeds to fund educational programs and the prevention and treatment of alcoholism and drug abuse within the county; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Liquor Excise Tax Act should be amended to authorize all counties to impose the tax and also authorize the use of the tax proceeds to fund social service programs serving persons impacted by alcohol and drug abuse.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 11/12/2009

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF SANTA FE COUNTY** that the New Mexico State Legislature is strongly urged to amend the Local Liquor Excise Tax Act to:

- (1) Authorize all New Mexico counties to impose a local liquor tax upon approval of the local voters; and
- (2) Authorize the use of the tax proceeds to fund social service programs serving persons impacted by alcohol and drug abuse.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff is directed to send copies of this resolution to our state legislative delegation, the governor and the city's lobbyist.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

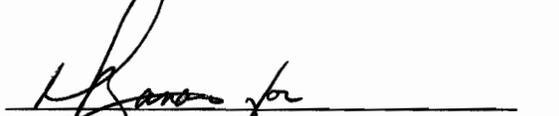
  
 Michael Anaya, Chairman



**ATTEST:**

  
 Valerie Espinoza, Santa Fe County Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

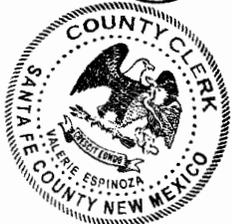
  
 Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS  
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 12TH Day Of November, 2009 at 04:37:58 PM and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1583039 of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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



SFC CLERK RECORDED 11 / 12 / 2009