

**SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**Resolution No. 2011 - 181**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES  
LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE FOR THE 2012 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
REGARDING DECRIMINALIZING TRAFFIC CITATIONS IN NEW MEXICO**

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico law provides criminal misdemeanor penalties for a broad spectrum of minor traffic offenses, such as exceeding the speed limit, failure to yield and improper turning; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of individuals are incarcerated in county detention facilities each year for violating their promise to appear in court for the disposition of their traffic citations and for failing to pay penalty assessments for these minor traffic infractions; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of incarcerating these non-violent offenders is substantial and has a significant impact on a counties budget; and

**WHEREAS**, imposing civil fines and authorizing the collection of any unpaid fines as provided for in civil law is a more efficient and reasonable alternative for such minor traffic violations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:** that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County supports legislation to decriminalize minor traffic violations in New Mexico and to authorize the collection of unpaid civil fines.

**APPROVED and ADOPTED this 29<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2011.**



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

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Virginia Vigil, Chair

**ATTEST:**

*Valerie Espinoza*

Valerie Espinoza, Santa Fe County Clerk



**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

*Stephen C. Ross*  
Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS  
PAGES: 1

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 30TH Day Of November, 2011 at 11:29:02 AM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1652594**  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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

SEC. CLERK RECORDED 11/30/2011