THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-60

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THE AMTRAK SOUTHWEST CHIEF PASSENGER SERVICE THROUGH LAMY (SANTA FE), NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, Amtrak's Southwest Chief serves northern New Mexico on its route between Chicago and Los Angeles on the host railroad line of Burlington Northern Santa Fe;

WHEREAS, the Southwest Chief and its famous predecessors (such as the Santa Fe Railroad's fabled Super Chief) have served this route since the late 1880s:

WHEREAS, eastbound and westbound trains stop at Lamy daily and served more than 118,687 New Mexico passengers in 2010, including 13,056 Lamy passengers;

WHEREAS, Amtrak provides a transportation link to the residents of northern New Mexico that is of growing importance and will likely become critical as rising energy prices curtail the attractiveness of driving and flying;

WHEREAS, the train is a key economic contributor to northern New Mexico, including the cities of Raton, Las Vegas, Lamy (Santa Fe), Albuquerque and Gallup;

WHEREAS, railway freight traffic has declined, thereby reducing monies customarily set aside for rail maintenance and consequently forcing travel at lower speeds;

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that the rail traversed by the Southwest Chief is in immediate need of more than $100 million in rail repairs in three states, including New Mexico, in order to resume normal speeds;

WHEREAS, it has been further projected that rail repairs over the course of the entire rail will total $300 million over the next ten years;

WHEREAS, Amtrak is unable to make said repairs given current fiscal conditions;

WHEREAS, the route of the Southwest Chief through Raton, Las Vegas, Lamy (Santa Fe) and Albuquerque is threatened by an alternative route under consideration that would reroute the train south from Newton, Kansas through the Texas Panhandle to New Mexico west of Albuquerque, bypassing Lamy. (Santa Fe)

RECORDED 05/14/2012 SFC CLERK NEW MEXICO

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY, to call upon the Governor of the State of New Mexico, members of the legislature of the State of New Mexico, and the congressional delegation of the State of New Mexico to strongly endorse continuation of Amtrak's current Southwest Chief route through northern New Mexico.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 8th day of May 2012.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

Liz Stefanics, County Commission Chair

ATTEST:

Valerie Espinoza, Santa Fe County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney

SFC CLERK RECORDED 05/10/2012

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COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 10TH Day Of May, 2012 at 09:57:08 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1668954 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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

Deputy