

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-138

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE
“NEW MEXICO GROWN FRESH FRUITS AND FRESH VEGETABLES FOR
SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM” AND MAINTENANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE
“DOUBLE-UP FOOD BUCKS PROGRAM” BY THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE**

WHEREAS, thirty percent (30.3%) of kindergarteners and almost thirty-nine percent (38.9 %) of third graders in New Mexico are considered overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS, more than 364,000 students are enrolled in New Mexico schools and can participate in the school lunch program operated by the various school meals programs throughout New Mexico and 212,000 enrolled students are eligible to participate in the free or reduced-price school meal programs; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Program (NSLP - Federal 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 will see an average of \$0.25 to \$0.75 increase in cost per plate for food purchases, with a minimal Federal increase of \$.06 reimbursement per meal; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Program provides a reimbursement of \$2.86 for free lunches and \$2.46 for reduced-priced lunches; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of NM grown fruits and vegetables will enhance the diet of these school children and help school meal programs comply with new Federal rules that require additional servings of fruits and vegetables in children's school meals; and

WHEREAS, there is an emerging agricultural sector in NM—small and medium-size fruit and vegetable farmers—who 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 NM grown produce, serve more fresh fruit and vegetables to our children for their health and well-being, and support economic development and opportunities for our local farmers; and

WHEREAS, increased funding would assist our schools and farmers in the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County; and

WHEREAS, one in five New Mexicans is in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); and

WHEREAS, in the Double-Up Food Bucks program, low-income shoppers on SNAP get a \$1 for \$1 match when buying New Mexico-grown foods with their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the SNAP program is to increase the purchase of locally-grown produce by low-income shoppers; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is the first state to fund Double-Up Food Bucks; and

WHEREAS, state funds in the Double-Up Food Bucks program are matched dollar for dollar with federal grant funds (for a total of \$2.1 million over 4 years); and

WHEREAS, the number of Double-Up Food Bucks retail outlets has increased from 34 in 2015 to nearly 90 in 2016; and

WHEREAS, EBT card and Double-Up Food Bucks sales have increased by 427% since 2014; and

WHEREAS, the "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for School Meals" and "Double-Up Food Bucks" programs will improve the community's access to nutritional food and strengthen the farming economy in the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County joins with New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council, New Mexico agencies, the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy, and other 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 and maintain funding in the Legislative budget of \$400,000 to support the "Double-Up Food Bucks" program.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 13th day of December 2016.

By: Miguel Chavez
Miguel Chavez, Chair

Date: 12/13/16

ATTEST:

Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

Date: 12-13-2016



Approved as to form:

Gregory S. Shaffer
Gregory S. Shaffer, County Attorney

Date: 11/29/2016

BCC RESOLUTIONS
PAGES: 3

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 14TH Day Of December, 2016 at 01:21:24 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1812102
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar

Deputy *Laura Hernandez* County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

