THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

2021-006 RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - (2020)

Introduced by: Commissioner Anna Hamilton and Commissioner Hank Hughes

A RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION IN THE 2021 NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO ESTABLISH A STATE PUBLIC BANK, OWNED BY AND FOR THE PEOPLE OF NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, a state public bank could improve the state's use and management of its funds for investment within New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, a state public bank could make investments in a way that both (i) enhances the growth and strength of New Mexico's communities and economic sectors – including increasing the potential for locally-owned banks and credit unions, and (ii) advances the state's public and private economic and community well-being by increasing its human and social capital, building its infrastructure, and regenerating its natural assets; and

WHEREAS, public banks offer a mechanism for governmental entities such as cities, counties, tribes, and states to deposit and invest their revenues in a public institution that allows them to more directly and efficiently invest those funds within the state to address priority needs; and

WHEREAS, because public banks are created in the public interest rather than to maximize profit for individuals, they can invest in community development and economic diversification projects, like affordable housing, renewable energy, agricultural development, and other needed infrastructure programs that enhance public welfare and well-being; and

WHEREAS, public banks bring together commercial, community, and mission-driven capital to drive investment in local markets; and

WHEREAS, public banks utilize local expertise to break down market barriers, fill finance gaps and connect projects with capital; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition for Green Capital helped design, create, and operate multiple US Green Banks, which have catalyzed \$5 billion in clean energy investment and connected capital sources with community driven green projects nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayers of New Mexico desire and require responsible and equitable use of public funds for public benefit and accountability in their financial system, and a New Mexico Public Bank would operate according to state and federal financial and banking laws; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico relies upon out-of-state investors to finance capital infrastructure and Santa Fe County recognizes the need to increase access to capital for small businesses, community development, and public infrastructure; and

WHERAS, a public bank owned by, and created for, New Mexicans would provide greater transparency and lower lending costs to the state and local governments compared to for-profit banks; and a public bank would partner with community banks, credit unions, and community development financial institutions (CDFIs), would keep taxpayer dollars in New Mexico, and is a concept that has been endorsed by the Credit Union Association of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, public banking is the preferred model of public development in many high-achieving economies throughout the world, in both developed and developing countries, and states and cities in the U.S. are now introducing and passing laws to charter public banks; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico needs a more robust and diversified economy to balance the volatile revenue from oil and gas production that are subject to significant market swings; and

WHEREAS, a public bank can grow New Mexico's general fund and direct New Mexico's investment decisions to support and diversify the economy, and it can facilitate additional goals in eco-tourism, food security, broadband expansion, health clinic upgrades, and clean energy infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, a public bank chartered in New Mexico, and approved by the legislature and Governor, could lower financing and debt service costs to state and local governments, while supporting local community development efforts; and

WHEREAS, as the County, State, and country rebuild in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a state public bank could be particularly helpful as a financial tool to assist small- and medium-sized local businesses to recover, survive and grow.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, hereby urges the New Mexico State Legislature to establish a state public bank owned by and for the people of New Mexico.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Manager is directed to forward this Resolution to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, the leadership of the New Mexico Senate and House, Senators and Representatives in the New Mexico Legislature representing Santa Fe County, the New Mexico State Treasurer, the New Mexico State Auditor, the Board of the New Mexico State Investment Council, the Board of the New Mexico Finance Authority, leadership of the Legislative Finance Council, the Director of the Financial Institutions Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department, and New Mexico Counties' Board of Directors and Executive Director.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONE	RS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY	The state of the s
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Henry P. Roybal, Chair	
ATTEST: Katharine E. Clark Santa Fe County Clerk	Date: \(\frac{1}{3} \)
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
for	
Gregory S. Shaffer Santa Fe County Attorney	
COUNTY OF SANTA FE) BCC RESOLU STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss	TIONS
I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Fil Record On The 14TH Day Of January, 2021 at 03 And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 194039 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County	32.54 DM 2 30
Deputy Clerk, Sa	rine E. Clark
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COUNTY OF SANTA FE) BCC RESOLUTIONS STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss	48
I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 26TH Day Of January, 2021 at 11:44:03 AM	MANNING
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1941455 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County	Page 3 of 3

ess My Hand And Seal Of Office

County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

Katharine E. Clark