

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 657

Introduced by:
Commissioner Hank Hughes

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION IN THE 2021 NEW MEXICO
LEGISLATIVE SESSION THAT PROMOTES ACTIONS RELATED TO, OR
APPROPRIATES FUNDING FOR CREATION OF, REHABILITATION OF, AND
CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT DIRECTLY AFFECT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN
SANTA FE COUNTY, AND ALSO SUPPORTING THE NEW MEXICO
MORTGAGE FINANCE AUTHORITY'S (MFA) LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR
2021 THAT MAY DIRECTLY BENEFIT SANTA FE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, affordable housing is necessary in every New Mexico community for the benefit of the workforce and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, almost every community in New Mexico now has a documented shortage of affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, affordable housing is defined as housing that costs no more than 30% of a household's gross monthly income; and

WHEREAS, income source discrimination prevents renters with housing vouchers from renting units in housing that is available to other renters; and

WHEREAS, the time frames for renters to catch up on past due rent or cure other violations are very short; and

WHEREAS, the eviction moratorium currently in place for the COVID-19 pandemic does not protect renters at the time their lease is up for renewal or prevent landlords from evicting tenants for other lease violations not associated with non-payment of rent; and

WHEREAS, New Mexicans are not only struggling to pay rent but also utilities, increasing the need for eviction and utility moratoriums and partial forgiveness programs; and

WHEREAS, the MFA is the State's designated housing agency; and

WHEREAS, the MFA operates a number of successful programs to provide New Mexicans with affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County may utilize the New Mexico Housing Trust Fund managed by the MFA to rehabilitate Santa Fe County public housing units; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County utilizes other MFA programs to create and maintain affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is in the midst of a pandemic caused by COVID-19 which makes having a safe home more important than ever for all New Mexicans; and

WHEREAS, a lack of affordable housing is one of the main causes of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the lack of affordable housing in Santa Fe County causes many workers to commute long distances from neighboring communities to work in Santa Fe County; and

WHEREAS, an increase in affordable housing development would create jobs and contribute to economic development.

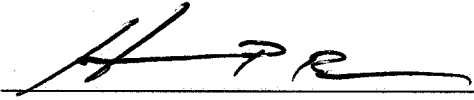
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, hereby urges the New Mexico State Legislature to support legislation that will increase the supply of affordable housing, expand access to affordable housing, and provide protections for renters living in affordable housing by:

1. Providing an additional \$12 million for the New Mexico Housing Trust Fund;
2. Expanding the uses of the Housing Trust Fund;
3. Prohibiting income source discrimination;
4. Extending the time frame for renters to correct lease violations and pay rent;
5. Supporting legislation that upholds the current rent and utility moratoriums and encourages utilities to establish a partial forgiveness programs for past-due bills accumulated during the Covid-19 Crisis without disconnecting these customers;
6. Prohibiting property managers from refusing to renew a lease during a declared health emergency.

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 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY


Henry P. Roybal, Chair

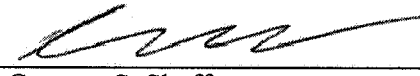


ATTEST:


Katharine E. Clark Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 1/13/21

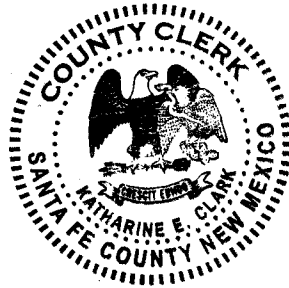
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

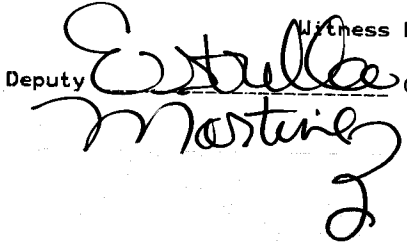

for
Gregory S. Shaffer
Santa Fe County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
PAGES: 3

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 14TH Day Of January, 2021 at 03:32:55 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1940397
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Deputy 
Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

SFC CLERK RECORDED 01/14/2021