RESOLUTION NO. 2021-0723

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING HISPANICS ENJOYING CAMPING, HUNTING, AND THE OUTDOORS (HECHO); SUPPORTING A NEW MEXICO PUBLIC LANDS CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL TO ELEVATE THE IMPORTANCE OF HISPANIC CULTURE, TRADITIONS AND PERSPECTIVES IN STRENGTHENING THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CONSERVATION OF PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

WHEREAS, New Mexico, is rooted in a rich and multicultural history, with 47% of the state's population having some Hispanic ancestry; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics have a strong connection to the nation's diverse landscapes and practice centuries-old traditions such as fishing, hunting, farming, ranching, wood gathering, plant gathering and piñon nut gathering that require the protection of public lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, the Hispano customs of caring for and cultivating the land responsibly and governing water for communities through acequias are critical to New Mexican heritage; and

WHEREAS, many New Mexico watersheds provide critical water resources to communities, including municipal, domestic and agricultural users, and provide clean water to numerous ancient and agriculturally and culturally significant acequia systems; and

WHEREAS, querencia, love for the land, is a deeply held value that connects southwestern Hispanics to a past, present and future sense of belonging and purpose, is a principle that prioritizes conservation for future generations and is what *HECHO* is founded on; and

WHEREAS, HECHO was established in the southwest and was founded to empower Hispanic leaders to engage their communities in the conservation of public land and policy; and

WHEREAS, HECHO provides a platform for Hispanic voices to be heard with respect to the protection of public lands, healthy watersheds, clean air and robust wildlife habitats; and

WHEREAS, *HECHO*, in working toward building a robust public lands conservation leadership council in New Mexico, encourages everyone to join and support this effort and *HECHO*'s mission; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for effective policies that safeguard public lands and waters for all; and

WHEREAS, Hispanos endeavor to continue to enjoy, practice, and pass down, cultural traditions that depend on the use of public lands; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic leaders endeavor to be widely recognized for contributions to public land conservation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Santa Fe County expresses support for and urges the

Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of New Mexico to enact a senate memorial and a house memorial, respectively, recognizing *HECHO* and supporting a New Mexico public lands conservation leadership council to help elevate the importance of Hispanic culture, traditions, and perspectives in strengthening the advancement of the conservation of public lands and waters for future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Santa Fe County expresses support for *HECHO* in the creation of a public lands conservation council of Hispanic leaders to build capacity and create a formalized network of Hispanic public lands leaders to increase participation and representation of Hispanics in such matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Santa Fe County recognizes the important role that *HECHO* fills in ensuring that Hispanic Americans and Hispano cultural and traditional uses of the land are included in decisions about public lands and waters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Santa Fe County recognizes *HECHO* as a group that connects and unites Hispanic leaders to engage their communities in the conservation of public lands and waters and fostering strong, culturally rich communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Lujan-Grisham and members of the New Mexico legislature to show support for *HECHO* and the public participation of all New Mexicans, including Hispanic New Mexicans, in decisions and processes concerning public lands and waters connected to nature and each other; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to members of the New Mexico congressional delegation, the Commissioner of Public Lands, State of New Mexico Director of the federal Bureau of Land Management, Director of the Intermountain Regional Office of the United States National Park Service, Director of the State Department of Game and Fish, the Southwest Regional Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Regional Forester of the Southwestern Regional Office of the United States Forest Service.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 9TH DAY OF MARCH, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

Henry P. Roybal, Chair

Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTATION:

Katharine E. Clark Santa Fe County Clerk Date: 03/10/2

Date: _0/1/21

Gregory S. Shaffer Santa Fe County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE STATE OF NEW MEXICO BCC RESOLUTIONS

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County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

Katharine E. Clark

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 11TH Day Of March, 2021 at 02:34:51 PM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1946210** Of The Records Of Santa Fe County SANTY COUNTY NE

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SFC CLERK RECORDED 03/11/2021