

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2022 - 082

Introduced by:
Commissioner Rudy N. Garcia and Commissioner Anna Hansen

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE TO RESEARCH AND
IMPLEMENT EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL-RELATED
HARMS IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

WHEREAS, alcohol kills New Mexicans at a far higher rate than anywhere else in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, New Mexicans are dying of alcohol-related harms at nearly three times the national average; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 there were 1,878 deaths attributable to alcohol in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, one in five deaths of working age New Mexicans is attributable to alcohol; and

WHEREAS, alcoholic liver disease, cirrhosis and other illnesses related to alcohol abuse killed 963 people in New Mexico in 2020; and

WHEREAS, excessive alcohol use cost New Mexico \$2.2 billion in 2010. This is equivalent to more than \$1,000 per New Mexican per year; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 28.4% of Santa Fe County youth at Santa Fe High School reported using alcohol; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, 20% of those youth reported they took their first drink prior to the age of 13; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Fe County in 2020 there were 119 deaths attributable to alcohol, and 38 deaths due to alcohol-related liver disease or cirrhosis; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County has a vested interest in the health and well-being of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, we support the New Mexico Legislature to increase alcohol tax in the 2023 session of legislation as a mechanism to reduce the impact on our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County urges the New Mexico Legislature to research and implement evidence-based strategies to reduce the number of deaths and injuries due to alcohol-related harms. Considered efforts should be guided by the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), including but not limited to consideration of the following:

1. **Increase Alcohol Taxes** - Increasing alcohol tax has been shown to decrease drinking (including underage drinkers), and decrease many alcohol-related harms.
2. **Regulate Alcohol Outlet Density** - Limiting the number of businesses selling and distributing alcohol in neighborhoods is one of the most effective strategies for reducing alcohol-related harm.
3. **Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention** - Screening and brief intervention services provided in clinical, community, or fully online settings have been shown to reduce excessive alcohol consumption.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 10/26/2022

4. **Limit the days and hours alcohol sales occur** - Maintain or decrease days and hours that alcohol is sold

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, and New Mexico Counties' Board of Directors and Executive Director.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 25th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

By: Anna T. Hamilton
Anna T. Hamilton, Chair

ATTESTATION:

Katharine E. Clark
Katharine E. Clark
Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 10/26/2022



SFC CLERK RECORDED 10/26/2022

Approved as to form:

Jeff Young
Jeff Young
Santa Fe County Attorney

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 26TH Day Of October, 2022 at 09:28:00 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2000224 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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

