

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 135

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NEW MEXICO COUNTIES'
2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

WHEREAS, in August 2025, the New Mexico Counties (NMC) Board of Directors approved three legislative priorities for consideration by the New Mexico Legislature at its 2026 session; and

WHEREAS, NMC has requested that the board of county commissioners in each of the state's 33 counties discuss and approve support for NMC's legislative priorities as an important step in assuring maximum understanding of NMC's legislative priorities at the county level; and

WHEREAS, county support enables NMC to demonstrate strong local and statewide support to the state legislature for the following 2026 NMC legislative priorities:

1. HB 2 Appropriations

A. Detention Reimbursement Fund

Fully fund County Detention Facility Reimbursement Act Fund to reimburse counties for the actual cost of housing state inmates.

- According to the New Mexico Sentencing Commission, the five-year average cost to house New Mexico Corrections Department inmates is \$9.3 million.
- Current fund at \$5 million.

B. Courthouse Funding

Authorize continued funding to Administrative Office of the Courts for construction and renovation of state district courthouses.

- Counties maintain that courthouses are a state responsibility and that the rising costs of construction, security, and IT necessitate a shared revenue stream.

C. Detention Recruitment and Retention

Authorize continued funding for the newly formed Corrections Workforce Capacity Building Fund administered by the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA).

- Adequate detention staff are essential to a safe, well-operated detention facility, which is directly correlated to community safety.

D. Firefighter/EMS Recruitment Fund

Authorize continued funding for the Fire & Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Recruitment Fund administered by DFA for fire departments to staff, recruit, and retain career and volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel.

- Call volume has increased by as much as 50%.
- Response systems are overburdened.
- Average age of New Mexican volunteer is 65.

E. 700 MHz Radios

Authorize continued funding for the monthly operational costs of 700 MHz radios to build out state interconnectivity infrastructure.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 12/04/2025

F. RISE Funding

Secure New Mexico Human Services Department funding for county participation in the RISE (Reach, Intervene, Support, and Engage) Program to provide behavioral health, medically assisted treatment (MAT), housing, vocational, and other services to people in detention.

2. IPRA Improvements

Amend the Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA) to exempt from disclosure specific information and prohibit certain requests used to compromise and obstruct critical local government services.

3. Timeline for Veteran Property Tax Exemptions

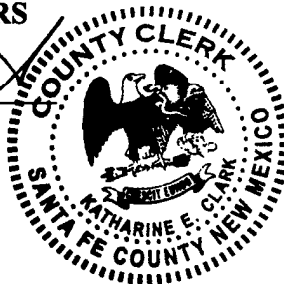
Require all veterans to file for property tax exemptions within the existing property tax annual schedule to ensure equitable treatment for all taxpayers and allow counties to accurately budget for the fiscal year. Veterans would have 30 days after the notice of value to file an exemption or request an extension for up to 180 days to resolve any delays in certification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners hereby supports NMC's 2026 legislative priorities as set forth above and urges that legislation incorporating these priorities be enacted by the State Legislature during its 2026 Regular Session.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 2nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2025.

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By: *Camilla Bustamante*
Camilla Bustamante, Chair



ATTEST:

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

Date: 12/2/28

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
PAGES: 2

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 4TH Day Of December, 2025 at 12:31:53 PM
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2072707
In The Records Of Santa Fe County

Approved as to form:

Cristella Cole
Walker Boyd
Santa Fe County Attorney

for

Deputy

Quiroga

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

SFC CLERK RECORDED 12/04/2025