

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION NO. 2018 – 102

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ADDITION OF A
CITIZENSHIP QUESTION TO THE 2020 CENSUS**

WHEREAS, the United States Census has been performed every ten years since 1790, with the last census conducted in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County's decennial census population count directly affects the amount of federal revenue distributed to Santa Fe County for roads, schools, libraries, senior centers, day care centers, and hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the Commerce Department, which oversees the Census Bureau, has announced its intention to add a question concerning citizenship status to the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, the addition of a citizenship question has not and will not be included in field tests that are used to validate the survey instrument; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable to anticipate that such a question will result in systematic undercounting of immigrants, creating serious sampling bias in the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, an accurate population count within the County is necessary for the Governing Body to better plan and fund needed facilities based on population distribution within the County; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is vulnerable to an undercount of residents because of hard-to-count communities including immigrants, rural residents and Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, an undercount would also affect the apportionment of Representatives in Congress, leaving those communities with a lesser voice in their collective representation; and

WHEREAS, an undercount of residents in New Mexico, even on a small scale, could cost the state millions of dollars in federal funding for social programs many New Mexicans rely on and utilize on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, over the ten years the 2020 Census would cover, nearly \$6 billion in federal funding is at stake – an undercount of even 1% would cost the state \$60 million in much needed support; and

WHEREAS, accurate census data is especially critical to rural areas that often rely on immigrant residents who patronize stores, send their children to school, and provide a workforce to countless industries; and

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WHEREAS, Santa Fe County stands as a community that supports non-discrimination in all forms, that recognizes the many contributions immigrants provide in daily life, and that appreciates the diversity of its residents; and

WHEREAS, numerous lawsuits have been filed against the federal government opposing the inclusion of a citizenship question on the Census; and

WHEREAS, sampling bias in the 2020 Census will further undermine the validity of future research that uses data from the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS, the Census is a key source of data used in social science, health, and environment research; and

WHEREAS, the research produced contributes not only to the advancement of knowledge but also to the development of programs, initiatives and interventions to serve the public good.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY THAT, the Board strongly opposes the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 Census for its effect of diminishing the reliability of Census data and research.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be provided to all members of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation and urge them to oppose the inclusion of a question on citizenship in the 2020 Census.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 25th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

Anna Hansen
Anna Hansen, Chair

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed
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And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1868707
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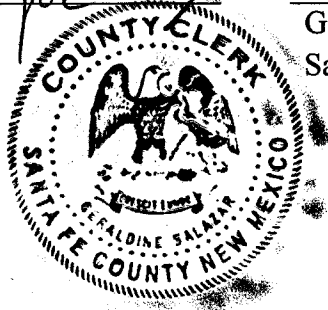
Estrella Martinez Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTESTATION:

R. Bruce Frederick
R. Bruce Frederick
County Attorney



Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar
Santa Fe County Clerk

SFC CLERK RECORDED 09/29/2018