

SANTA FE COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2019- 10

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
THE PROPOSED HEALTH SECURITY ACT
IN THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2008, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County (“County”) adopted Resolution 2008-1 urging the New Mexico State Legislature to pass the Health Security Act; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2010, President Barack Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“Affordable Care Act”), which is the nation’s first successful effort to provide comprehensive, affordable, and quality health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act has reduced the overall number of uninsured residents in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, uninsured adults in New Mexico between the age of 19 and 64 have decreased from 28% in 2013 to 13% in 2018 as a result of expanded opportunities for health care coverage provided by the health exchanges established under the Affordable Care Act and the expansion of the Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, despite the improvements created by the Affordable Care Act, thirteen (13) percent of County residents under the age of 65, or 14,723 adults, lack health insurance; and

WHEREAS, despite the improvements created by the Affordable Care Act, seven (7) percent of County residents under the age of 19, or 2,177 children, lack health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the cost of health care including premiums, insurance deductibles, patient co-payments, and pharmaceutical drugs, continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, the cost of health care, and its increase from year to year, remain serious problems that impacts the County’s residents and families, as well as the County and state budgets; and

WHEREAS, access to and the rising cost of health care have become major issues of concern for the County’s residents; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies, including two recent studies in New Mexico, show that allowing the state’s residents to join a single health risk pool would reduce health care costs, uncompensated care,

and administrative complexity, reap the benefits of economies of scale, and establish a more stable health care system for the benefit of all residents of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, elected and federal officials in Washington, D.C. are giving the clear message that the states need to take the lead in health care reform; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act allows a state to receive a waiver for innovations in health care that are more appropriate to its particular circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Health Security Act is a homegrown state plan that has been developed over many years with input from diverse sectors from across New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Health Security Act will enable New Mexico to set up its own health plan that provides the state's residents with access to comprehensive, affordable, and quality health coverage regardless of their age, employment, and health status; and

WHEREAS, the plan created by the Health Security Act will generate savings which can be reinvested in needed health infrastructure and services, including mental and behavior health care services; and

WHEREAS, the plan created by the Health Securities Act will reduce the County's expenditures on health care, allowing the County to redirected those resources to other critical needs such as economic development, education, public safety, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Health Security Act has been endorsed by more than thirty five (35) cities and counties and one hundred sixty (160) organizations representing a broad cross-section of the state's residents; and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2019, the Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission voted to recommend that the Board of County Commissioners express its support for the Health Security Act in the 2019 Legislative Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County urges the New Mexico State Legislature to adopt the Health Security Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Santa Fe Legislative Delegation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the New Mexico Association of Counties.

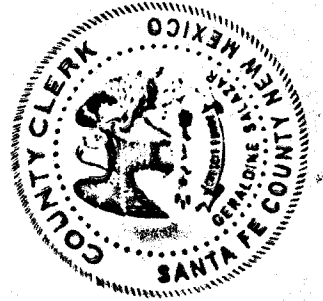
SFC CLERK RECORDED 01/30/2019

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 29TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.

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

Anna Hamilton

Anna Hamilton, Chair
Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County



ATTEST:

Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

R. Bruce Frederick
R. Bruce Frederick, 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 30TH Day Of January, 2019 at 12:06:35 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1877904
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Deputy *Estrella Martinez*
Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

SFC CLERK RECORDED 01/30/2019