

SANTA FE COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-11

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
THE PROPOSED MEDICAID BUY-IN PROGRAM
IN THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, a healthy community is a key goal for Santa Fe County (“County”); and

WHEREAS, the County has taken and is committed to taking an active and strategic role in providing comprehensive, affordable, and quality health care to the County’s residents; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 187,000 state residents have no health insurance; and

WHEREAS, thirteen (13) percent of County residents under the age of 65, or 14,723 adults, lack health insurance; and

WHEREAS, seven (7) percent of County residents under the age of 19, or 2,177 children, lack health insurance; and

WHEREAS, most uninsured County residents either cannot afford private health care coverage or do not qualify for the Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, County residents who are uninsured routinely forego needed medical services, have less access to preventive care and behavioral health services, and must wait until medical conditions worsen into expensive and sometimes untreatable emergencies; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has made tremendous progress in expanding coverage to uninsured residents by expanding the Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these efforts, more than 832,000 state residents, or more than forty (40) percent of the state’s population, are currently covered by Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these efforts, more than 99,000 Santa Fe County residents, or more than sixty seven (67) percent of the County’s population, are covered by Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Together for Healthcare Coalition has proposed legislation to develop a Medicaid Buy-In Plan for New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would expand the options for the state's residents to obtain comprehensive, affordable, and quality health care coverage, enabling the state to close the coverage gap; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would enable the state's residents who currently do not qualify for Medicaid to obtain coverage under that program; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would prioritize access to those residents who cannot obtain comprehensive, affordable, and quality health care coverage through their employers, public programs, or the health care exchanges established under the Affordable Care Act; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would allow the state's residents to obtain a comprehensive set of benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would be available to the state's residents at a more affordable cost than private health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would utilize premium cost sharing, adjusted for income, to ensure affordability; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would allow the state's residents to use their own dollars and tax credits to purchase comprehensive, affordable, and quality health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would use Medicaid's administrative structure and purchasing power to control health care costs and provide accountable oversight; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would ensure that doctors and hospitals are paid for their services; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan would enable New Mexico to pursue federal waivers to expand the Medicaid program to even more of the state's residents; and

WHEREAS, the Medicaid Buy-In Plan legislation will include a state appropriation to establish the program; 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 Medicaid Buy-In legislation in the 2019 Legislative Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners supports the Medicaid Buy-In legislation in the 2019 Legislative Session, 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.

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
I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 30TH Day Of January, 2019 at 12:06:36 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1877905
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



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

SFC CLERK RECORDED 01/30/2019