

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-142

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**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE 2018 FARM BILL PRIORITIES AS A MEANS TO  
SECURING A REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM THAT IS JUST AND ACCESSIBLE FOR  
ALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND SANTA FE COUNTY  
COMMUNITIES**

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**WHEREAS**, the Agricultural Act of 2014 (“Act”), commonly known as the 2014 Farm Bill, is the primary agricultural and food policy tool of the federal government and deals with agriculture and all related affairs under the purview of the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”); and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of the Act affect the local and regional capacity to support a regional food system that is just, secured, sustainable and accessible for all members in the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County and the greater region of Northern New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, provisions of the Act will expire in 2018 and the U.S. Congress typically enacts a new comprehensive farm bill upon expiration of the existing legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Congress is considering legislative action for the 2018 Farm Bill (“Bill”); and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe and regional agriculture and food systems stakeholders such as the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy and the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council are interested in recommending provisions of the Bill; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of this Bill would secure support for the infrastructure necessary for local and regional food systems, farming and ranching to thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of this Bill would increase access of federal nutrition program by participants to purchase from farmers markets, Community Supported Agriculture (“CSA’s”), and other local, healthy sustainable food enterprises; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions of this Bill would support urban and rural programs and linkages through USDA interagency coordination; and

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**WHEREAS**, the recommended provisions would request USDA to further harmonize and streamline Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) redemption technology with other federal nutrition programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended provision of this Bill would promote incentives for fruit and vegetable purchases by federal nutrition program participants; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended provision of this Bill would support farmer and rancher programs that provide direct marketing opportunities and enhance their ability to focus on building their businesses, mitigating risks, and improving land stewardship.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY** that the County and City support federal legislation for certain provisions of the 2018 Farm Bill, including the following:

- (1) **Securing the infrastructure necessary for local and regional food and agriculture systems to thrive.** Infrastructure such as on-farm processing equipment and aggregation, distribution, and processing facilities would strengthen regional food hubs, and support farm to school sales, value-added production and processing, and other rural economic development. Maintain Rural Development programs such as the Rural Enterprise Development Grant Program and the Value-Added Producer Grant Program while expanding the Community Facility Program to include infrastructure that supports cooperative farm, ranch and community enterprise development.
- (2) **Increase access of federal nutrition programs by participants to purchase from farmers markets, CSA’s, and other local, healthy sustainable food enterprises.** Measures include providing EBT devices to farmers markets, mobile markets, and CSA’s, using smart phone technology for SNAP at farmers markets and mobile markets. Maintain the Farmers Market Promotion Program, Local Food Promotion Program, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations with provisions that meet the individual needs of communities including authority to purchase locally. Continue support for Community Food Project grants , set aside funding for technical assistance, SNAP-Ed funding for promoting SNAP participants’ shopping at farmers markets, mobile markets, CSA’s, and retail stores promoting local produce, and encourage the use of community organizing strategies, could further enhance access.
- (3) **Support streamlining of SNAP redemption and technology with federal nutrition programs.** Minimize administrative barriers to redemption of SNAP/EBT, WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits would maximize farmer participation in these programs with increased sales benefiting both producers and consumers.

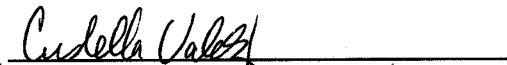
- (4) **Expand urban and rural programs and linkages through USDA interagency coordination.** Such initiatives foster collaboration among agencies, city and county governments and community programs.
- (5) **Promote incentives for fruit and vegetable purchases by federal nutrition program participants.** Secure funds for the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives Program at farmers markets and retail grocers, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program, DOD Fresh Program for schools, and the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program.
- (6) **Support farmer and rancher programs that provide direct marketing opportunities and enhance their ability to focus on building their businesses and mitigating risks.** Secure continued resources for the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program and associated programs while minimizing cumbersome requirements, the Outreach and Assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers, Ranchers and Veterans Program, the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, and other incentive programs.
- (7) **Secure the resources necessary for farmers and ranchers to maximize stewardship of their land, water, and natural resources through conservation programs while enhancing their operations with energy efficient and season extension systems.** Maintain the EQIP Program for season extension, irrigation, fencing, and frost protection; Conservation Reserve Program; Conservation Stewardship Program and related loan programs; Agriculture Conservation Easement Program; and Farm Service Agency Programs including the Whole Farm Insurance Program.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2017.**

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

  
Henry P. Roybal, Chair

ATTEST:  
  
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk


APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
  
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 13TH Day Of December, 2017 at 08:50:26 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1843588 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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

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