

Resolution No. 2025-20

**Resolution Supporting the New Mexico Counties
2025 Legislative Priorities**

WHEREAS, in August 2024, the New Mexico Counties Board of Directors approved four legislative priorities for consideration by the New Mexico Legislature at its 2025 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 issues:

1. HB 2 Appropriations

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 \$8.2 million.
- Current fund at \$5 million

Courthouse Funding

Authorize continued funding to AOC 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.

Detention Recruitment and Retention

Authorize continued funding for the newly formed Corrections Workforce Capacity Building Fund administered by DFA.

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

Firefighter/EMS Recruitment Fund

Authorize continued funding for the Fire & 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.

Emergency Medical Services

Ensure that SB 151 (2024 as amended by Senate Tax) authorizing a redirect of 10% of the Premium Tax from health insurance business to the EMS Fund is implemented as stated.

700 MHz Radios

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

2. Equitable Disclosure

Treat residential and non-residential property transfers equitably to allow for accurate valuation of non-residential real property. Information would be used for statistical and analytical purposes only.

3. IPRA Improvements

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

4. Resources to Support Border-Related Humanitarian and Crime Efforts

Appropriate \$5 million to counties for services provided to state and federal agencies to support border humanitarian and crime efforts. This funding will be used to combat drug and human trafficking networks; to coordinate with community services that provide food, transportation, shelter, and family location; and to coordinate with state and federal agencies on information sharing and coordination of state law enforcement activities.

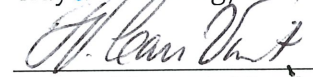
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union County Board of County Commissioners does hereby support NMC's legislative priorities as set forth above and urges that legislation incorporating these priorities be enacted by the state legislature during its 2025 session.

ADOPTED this 10th day of September 2024.

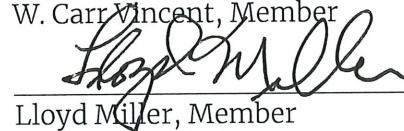
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF UNION, NEW MEXICO



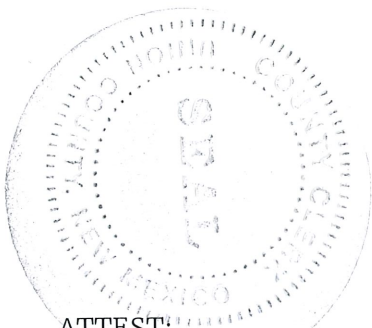
Clayton Kiesling, Chair



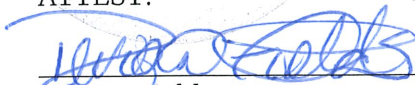
W. Carr Vincent, Member



Lloyd Miller, Member



ATTEST:



Devian Fields
County Clerk