

Be it remembered that at the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Luna County in Deming New Mexico, on the 11th day of February 2021, the following proceedings were had and entered of record.

RESOLUTION 21-17

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, New Mexico livestock producers produce the highest quality of meat;

WHEREAS, the value of New Mexico livestock production exceeds Three Billion Dollars (\$3,000,000,000) annually, with Eight Hundred Twenty-four Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$824,300,000) in cash receipts generated by beef cattle and calves alone;

WHEREAS, the vast majority of meat processing is done by only four large companies geared towards bulk delivery to food service, restaurants and schools;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic caused an abrupt and dynamic change in how food reaches the consumer's table which disrupted the meat processing industry, led by the four large processing companies, which were unable to adapt to the COVID-19 era demand for smaller packaging and delivery to retail outlets which led to empty shelves nationwide and particularly in rural New Mexico;

WHEREAS, Consumers are now demanding to know where their food comes from and how it was grown, with a clear preference for fresh local products, including beef;

WHEREAS, New Mexico livestock producers hurt by the disruption of the food supply chain are ready, willing and able to help meet these needs and demands with locally sourced beef; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico livestock producers are unable to help themselves and their fellow New Mexicans by supplying locally source beef because New Mexico does not have a regulatory process for the inspection of and promoting locally grown meat products.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Luna County urges the immediate implementation of a regulatory scheme that provides for the inspection of locally sourced meat products and facilitates the provision of New Mexico meat products to New Mexicans.

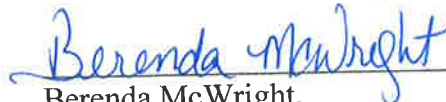
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Luna County supports the passage and enactment of House Bill 33 expanding the New Mexico Livestock Board's ability to conduct meat inspections and House Bill 121 appropriating funds to establish a statewide meat processing and marketing program expanding access to access beef produced locally, expanding local processing of beef and increasing retail opportunities for local beef producers.


DONE THIS 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021


by the Board of County Commissioners of Luna County

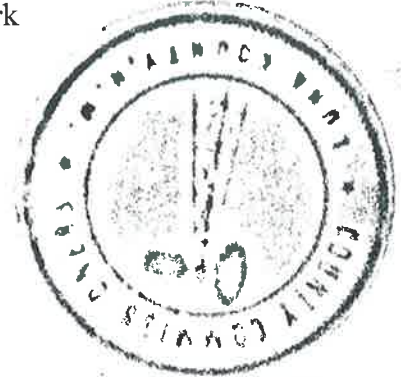
ATTEST:


Barbara L. Reedy, Chairperson
Commissioner, District 1


Berenda McWright,
County Clerk


Linda M. Smrkovsky,
Commissioner, District 2


John S. Sweetser,
Commissioner, District 3



REVIEWED FOR LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:


Charles C. Kretek,
County Attorney