



RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2017-18

Supporting Senate Bill 299: An Act Relating to Whistleblower Protection; Changing Definitions in the Whistleblower Protection; Changing to Whom Public Employees May Report Unlawful or Improper Acts; Changing Remedies and Affirmative Defenses; Requiring Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies Before Whistleblower Protection Act Remedies Are Available

WHEREAS, §10-16C-1, et. seq. NMSA 1978 is entitled The Whistleblower Protection Act; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose and intent of the act, as originally written was to provide a means of protection for governmental employees for retaliatory actions; and,

WHEREAS, Roosevelt County understands and supports the original intent in the Act, the Act as written has been applied in litigation in a manner which has resulted in a severe financial and liability exposure to New Mexico municipalities and Counties; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 299 recognizes some of the major areas within the Whistleblower Act that have been abused and attempts to clarify the language in the Whistleblower Protection Act so that it would still provide intended protection to governmental employees; and,

WHEREAS, revisions to the Whistleblower Act by Senate Bill 299, include modifications to the Whistleblower Protection Act that would afford and ensure the County is made aware of the claim in a timely manner, provided with the opportunity to address and resolve the claims asserted by a public employee under the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Roosevelt County, they strongly support Senate Bill 299 as drafted and request that the elected representatives in the New Mexico House and Senate approve and pass the Bill as written and that Governor Susana Martinez sign the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Roosevelt County requests the Honorable Governor Susana Martinez to sign the Bill upon passage by the House and Senate.




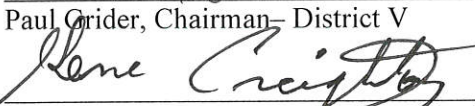
PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 28th day of February, 2017.


**BODY OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

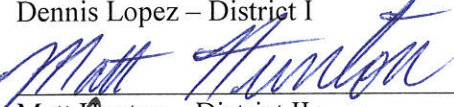
ATTEST:

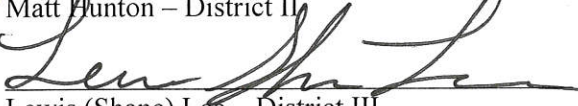

DeAun D. Searl, Roosevelt County Clerk


Paul Grider, Chairman – District V


Gene Creighton, Vice Chairman – District IV


Dennis Lopez – District I


Matt Hunton – District II


Lewis (Shane) Lee – District III

