



**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2017-31**

**Supporting Higher Education Funding and Eastern New Mexico University**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 9:00 A. M. at the Roosevelt County Courthouse at 109 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Portales, NM; and

**WHEREAS** the County of Roosevelt (hereinafter “County”) is a New Mexico county established by NMSA 1978 Section 4-22-1 (1903); and,

**WHEREAS**, NMSA, 1978, Section 4-38-18 (1976) provides that a Board of County Commissioner has the duty and authority “[t]o represent the county and have the care of the county property and the management of the interest of the county in all cases where no other provision is made by law; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 4-37-1 *et seq.* NMSA 1978 provides that counties have the authority and duty, not inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties, to discharge those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the county and its inhabitants; and,

**WHEREAS**, Eastern New Mexico University (hereinafter “ENMU”) is a New Mexico educational established by Article 12, Section 11 of the New Mexico Constitution and is located primarily within the boundaries of the County; and,

**WHEREAS**, ENMU is ranked in the top 10 percent of the most affordable four-year universities in the southwest; and,

**WHEREAS**, ENMU boasts the highest student satisfaction rate among New Mexico universities since 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, ENMU is one of the largest economic drivers in Roosevelt County and one of the County’s largest employers; and,

**WHEREAS**, in New Mexico higher education has been cut 8.4% since FY16 if the current proposed budget remains at a 1% cut for FY 18; and,

**WHEREAS**, ENMU’s budget has been reduced by \$2.35 million in 2016 alone; and,

**WHEREAS**, Governor Martinez has vetoed all state funding to New Mexico’s universities, sending an unintended message of economic uncertainty to New Mexico’s higher education students as well as to current and prospective faculty and staff; and



**WHEREAS**, the loss and/or reduction of state funding leaves New Mexico's universities unable to compete for students, faculty or economic development opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, the program cuts resulting from the budget will require reductions in force and spending, which will be devastating to the economy of Roosevelt County.


**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Roosevelt County Board of County Commissioners, that this Board opposes the Governor's veto of higher education funding as well as the State's further reduction of funding for Eastern New Mexico University.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Roosevelt County Board of County Commissioners, this Board requests the Governor and the Legislature restore funding to Eastern New Mexico University as the funding is vital to the operations of the University and the economy of the County.

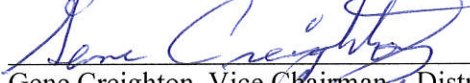
**PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 2nd day of May, 2017.

**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

  
Matthew Hunton – District II

  
Dennis Lopez – District I

  
Lewis (Shane) Lee – District III



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