



**RESOLUTION 2016-05**

**NMAC Healthcare Policy Committee**

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico counties care greatly about health care for their local citizens and value their local hospitals, particularly in rural areas; and

**WHEREAS**, counties have long played an integral role in providing health care services for their indigent residents; and

**WHEREAS**, for nearly 20 years counties have worked collaboratively with their local community hospitals in helping fund the Sole Community Provider program and in coordinating health care for their local citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sole Community Provider program has now been replaced by the Safety Net Care Pool (SNCP), which provides funding for community hospitals for Medicaid base rate increases and uncompensated care; and

**WHEREAS**, the counties' role under the SNCP has been significantly diminished and their financial contribution to the SNCP no longer has any relationship to the funds disseminated by the Human Services Department (HSD) to the counties' respective community hospitals; and

**WHEREAS**, finding a solution to funding the SNCP requires communication and cooperation among the various stakeholders—counties, hospitals, and the state, in both the legislative and executive branches.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the County of Torrance strongly opposes any legislation that imposes a further financial obligation for counties to fund the SNCP and hospitals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the County of Torrance will endorse and support legislation which protects Counties' autonomy and discretion over the use of County imposed Indigent Health Care gross receipts tax revenues; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the County of Torrance supports mandatory County participation as a critical stakeholder and primary funding source in all discussions and planning with the New Mexico Human Services Department regarding any and all funding methods to secure the future of safety net care pool for local hospitals both public and private.

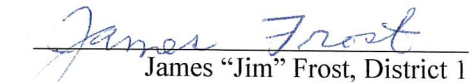
**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.



Attest:

  
Linda Jaramillo, Clerk of the Board

**TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION**

  
James "Jim" Frost, District 1

  
Julia DuCharme, District 2

  
LeRoy Candelaria, District 3