



## RESOLUTION 2016-38

### ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND THE PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILT) PROGRAM AND THE SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AS MANDATORY PROGRAMS

**WHEREAS**, the Payment in lieu of Taxes (PILT) program was created in 1976 to offer Federal payments to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to non-taxable Federal lands within their boundaries; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (SRS) was established in 2000 to assist rural counties and school districts affected by federal policy changes that caused the decline in revenue from timber harvests on federal lands; and,

**WHEREAS**, PILT and SRS are critical components of local government budgets providing funding for necessary basic services including law enforcement, fire suppression, public health, education services, roads and infrastructure, and natural resource management; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, New Mexico counties received approximately \$37.7 million in PILT and \$9.2 million in SRS; and,

**WHEREAS**, the formula for PILT funding distributions includes SRS payments as an offset and without these offsets the majority of PILT funding will be redirected to the Pacific Northwest states; and,

**WHEREAS**, SRS payments are distributed in arrears and the program has not been reauthorized since 2015; and,

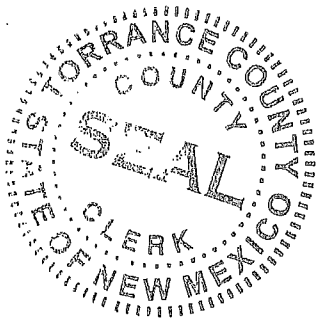
**WHEREAS**, Congress needs to ensure that PILT and SRS payments adequately reimburse local governments for lost tax revenue and timber receipts associated with federal ownership of public and changes in federal policies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Torrance County, New Mexico, respectfully requests swift passage of legislation to extend SRS funding and to find a permanent source of funding for PILT; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Torrance County, New Mexico, THANKS THE New Mexico Congressional delegation for its ongoing advocacy for permanent funding of the PILT and SRS programs.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION

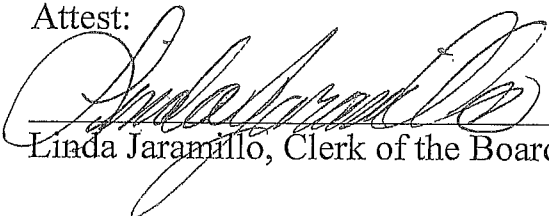


  
LeRoy Candelaria, Chair

  
Jim Frost, Member

  
Julia DuCharme, Member

Attest:

  
Linda Jaramillo, Clerk of the Board