

1 CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2 RESOLUTION NO. 2008-104

3 INTRODUCED BY:

4 Councilor Romero

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10 A RESOLUTION

11 **URGING THE NEW MEXICO STATE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE LOCAL**
12 **LIQUOR EXCISE TAX ACT TO AUTHORIZE ALL NEW MEXICO COUNTIES TO**
13 **IMPOSE A LOCAL LIQUOR TAX UPON APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL VOTERS AND**
14 **TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE TAX PROCEEDS TO FUND SOCIAL SERVICE**
15 **PROGRAMS SERVING PERSONS IMPACTED BY ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE.**

16
17 **WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
18 (NIAAA), lower prices on alcohol are associated with increased levels and frequency of drinking,
19 particularly among underage persons; and

20 **WHEREAS**, aside from providing a source of new revenue, increasing taxes on alcohol
21 will deter underage use, reduce traffic-crash fatalities and certain crimes, and decrease alcohol-
22 related health problems such as cirrhosis; and

23 **WHEREAS**, most New Mexico counties are struggling to find resources to fund
24 programs to combat problems resulting from alcohol and substance abuse but even small
25 increases in taxes would translate into significant new revenues for domestic violence programs,

1 rape crisis programs, trauma programs (as in auto accidents) and DWI programs; and

2 **WHEREAS**, 70% of documented cases of domestic and sexual violence involved
3 alcohol and other drugs; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Local Liquor Excise Tax Act (Sections 7-24-8 through 7-24-16 NMSA
5 1978) authorizes, upon approval of a majority of the voters at a regular or special election, the
6 imposition of a local liquor excise tax not to exceed five percent on any retailer for alcoholic
7 beverages in Class B counties having a population of more than 56,000 but less than 75,000 and
8 having a net taxable value of more than \$500,000,000 and less than \$700,000,000 (currently only
9 McKinley County); and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Act authorizes the use of these tax proceeds to fund educational
11 programs and the prevention and treatment of alcoholism and drug abuse within the county; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Local Liquor Excise Tax Act should be amended to authorize all
13 counties to impose the tax and also authorize the use of the tax proceeds to fund social service
14 programs serving persons impacted by alcohol and drug abuse.

15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
16 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the New Mexico State Legislature is strongly urged to amend the
17 Local Liquor Excise Tax Act to:

18 (1) Authorize all New Mexico counties to impose a local liquor tax upon approval of
19 the local voters; and

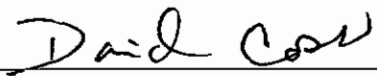
20 (2) Authorize the use of the tax proceeds to fund social service programs serving
21 persons impacted by alcohol and drug abuse.

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff is directed to send copies of this resolution to
23 our state legislative delegation, the governor and the city's lobbyist.

24 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 10th day of December, 2008.

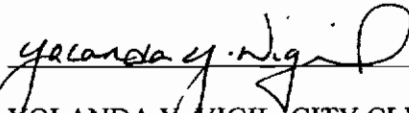
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DAVID COSS, MAYOR

ATTEST:



YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY