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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-70

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Renee D. Villarreal

Councilor Peter N. Ives

Councilor Signe I. Lindell

A RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS BY THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE FOR THE “NEW MEXICO GROWN FRESH FRUITS AND FRESH VEGETABLES FOR SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM” AND RELATED EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, more than 28.6 percent of kindergarteners and 34 percent of third graders in New Mexico are considered overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS, approximately 333,300 students are enrolled in New Mexico schools and can participate in the school meal programs operated by various schools throughout the state, and more than 241,400 of these students – 72 percent – are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals; and

WHEREAS, more than 16,000 students in Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe participate in the school meal program; and

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Program makes it possible for all school children in the United States to receive a nutritious lunch every school day; and

1 **WHEREAS**, local school meal programs have seen increased costs for food purchases of
2 an average of 25 cents to 75 cents per meal, with fruits and vegetables representing as much as a
3 quarter of the increased cost; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the National School Lunch Program provides a reimbursement of \$3.31 for
5 free lunches, \$2.91 for reduced-priced lunches, and \$0.39 for fully paid lunches; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the National School Lunch Program provides a reimbursement of \$1.79 for
7 free breakfasts, \$1.49 for reduced-price breakfasts, and \$0.31 for fully paid breakfasts; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe County Community Services Department is implementing an
9 Accountable Health Community, with the vision that that all County residents regardless of
10 income have access to high-quality health care and are linked to resources they need for health
11 and well-being, including food; and

12 **WHEREAS**, increasing consumption of healthy food is a priority in the *Santa Fe*
13 *County Health Action Plan*, including improving the numbers of adolescents within the County
14 consuming five or more fresh fruits and vegetables a day; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the purchase of New Mexico grown fruits and vegetables will enhance the
16 diet of school children and help school meal programs comply with federal rules that require
17 additional servings of fruits and vegetables on the children’s school meal plates; and

18 **WHEREAS**, there is an agricultural sector made up of small and medium-sized fruit and
19 vegetable farmers that can respond to this new food “market” for local produce in the school meal
20 programs; and

21 **WHEREAS**, food and agriculture education programs and experiential learning are key
22 to increasing student access to and relationship with fresh and local produce, as well as to
23 introducing students to possible career paths; and

24 **WHEREAS**, increased funding from the State Legislature enables school meal programs
25 and local school districts to purchase New Mexico grown produce, serve more fresh fruits and

1 vegetables to our children for their health and well-being, provide related educational materials
2 and experiential learning opportunities, and support economic development and opportunities for
3 our local farmers.

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
5 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the City of Santa Fe joins with the Santa Fe County and the County
6 Advisory Council on Food Policy, the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council, the
7 New Mexico School Nutrition Association, and other agencies and organizations in requesting
8 that the New Mexico State Legislature appropriate funds to support the “New Mexico Grown
9 Fresh Fruits and Fresh Vegetables for School Meals” program and related education programs.

10 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2018.

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14 ALAN M. WEBBER, MAYOR

15 ATTEST:

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17 _____
18 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

19 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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21 _____
22 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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24
25 *M/Legislation/Resolutions 2018/2018-70 NM Grown Fruits and Vegetables*