

VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION NO. 2021-<u>6</u>6

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE STATE EXEMPT SENIORS' PRIMARY RESIDENCES FROM TAXATION

WHEREAS, the Valencia County Commission met upon notice of meeting duly published on November 3, 2021, at 5:00 P.M. in the Valencia County Administration Building, 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031; and,

WHEREAS, over fifteen (15) million Americans aged 65+ are economically insecure, living at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; and,

WHEREAS, New Mexico ranks third highest in the nation for the percentage of seniors living in poverty; and,

WHEREAS, Think New Mexico anticipates that the percentage of the state's elderly poor will likely grow in the coming years, as two out of three private sector workers in the state do not have any money saved for retirement and eighty (80) percent have less than \$10,000.00 saved; and,

WHEREAS, New Mexico is one of just thirteen states that charge income tax on Social Security benefits, which practice this Board urged the State to cease several years ago; and,

WHEREAS, while NMSA 1978, Section 7-36-21.3 (2020) limits the increase in value for single-family dwellings occupied by certain low-income owners who are sixty-five years of age or older or disabled, it nonetheless subjects such property to property tax; and,

WHEREAS, no New Mexican senior should feel insecure in their home, or worry that their inability to pay property taxes will result in the loss of their home.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Valencia County Board of Commissioners that the County urges the Governor of New Mexico to add a property tax exemption for primary residences of all New Mexican seniors to the call for the 2022 New Mexico Legislative Session agenda.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Valencia County Board of Commissioners that the County calls upon the New Mexico Legislature to vote to exempt all New Mexico Seniors' primary residences from property taxation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Valencia County Board of Commissioners that it directs that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of New Mexico and the New Mexico Senators and Representatives representing Valencia County in the New Mexico Legislature.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd DAY OF NOVEMBER 2021.

Joseph Bizzell, District IV

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Gerard Saiz, Chair, District I

Jhonathan Aragon, Vice-Chair, District V

Troy Richardson, District II

Attact.

Mike Milam, County Clerk