

SANTA FE COUNTY

Resolution No. 2010-222

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE OF NEW MEXICO LEGISLATION
INCREASING THE PREFERENCE ADVANTAGE FOR THE NEW MEXICO
AGRICULTURE SECTOR FOR BOTH NEW MEXICO FRESH PRODUCE AND
PROCESSED PRODUCTS PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT AND OTHER
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES**

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Fe recognizes that the benefits of local food production include stewardship of working agricultural lands; direct and indirect jobs in agriculture production, food processing, eco-tourism and support industries; energy conservation and greenhouse gas reductions due to reduced miles to market; and increased food security through access to locally grown foods.

WHEREAS, health studies indicate that there is direct correlation between adequate nutrition and a child's development and school performance.

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Fe further finds that adequate nutrition is also necessary for the physical health of adults, especially senior citizens, and that ready access to New Mexico farm and ranch raised food will help reduce diet-related diseases.

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Fe believes that expanding market opportunities for New Mexico farmers, ranchers and food processors, through a procurement preference, will help to preserve and strengthen local food production and increase the already significant contributions that agriculture makes to the local and State economies.

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Fe finds that the local authorities' existing procurement requirements and practices are based on State regulations.

