

## SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION № 110-055

## OPPOSING HJR02 AND SJR02 PROPOSING TO AMEND NM CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County, met in a regular meeting on January 27, 2022, at 10:00 A.M. in the Sierra County Administration Office, 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901; and,

**WHEREAS**, NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1 (1995) provides that Counties have the power to, "provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of any county or its inhabitants"; and

WHEREAS, NMSA, 1978, Section 4-38-18 (1976) provides that a Board of County Commissioner has the duty and authority "[t]o represent the county and have the care of the county property and the management of the interest of the county in all cases where no other provision is made by law; and,

**WHEREAS**, five Democrat legislators introduced partiaan legislation proposing to amend the New Mexico Constitution to provide environmental rights; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Constitutional amendment would open the door to lawsuits against ranchers, farmers, and other companies by well-funded special interest groups, and will serve to destroy the industries that support the economies of New Mexico communities; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed constitutional amendment creates a legal basis upon which out-of-state interest groups can effectively shut down oil and gas in New Mexico, agriculture, commercial development, and manufacturing, destroying our local economies and rendering New Mexico a less desirable site to which to relocate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County that it opposes House Joint Resolution 2 and Senate Joint Resolution 2, and respectfully requests that the House and Senate not approve the Joint Resolutions.

## APPROVED, ADOPTED AND RESOLVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SIERRA COUNTY**

Jim Paxon, Chairman

Travis Day, Vice-Chair

Hank Hopkins, Commissioner

ATTEST

o. County