

RESOLUTION 02-01

SENATE BILL 4 - 45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - second session 2002
INTRODUCED BY Manny M. Aragon

WHEREAS, SENATE BILL 4 proposes to eliminate seven Magistrate Judgeships in the State of New Mexico on or before January 1, 2003, one of the Judgeships is Grant II Bayard New Mexico.

WHEREAS, if the Bayard Court is eliminated, their 1300 cases will be filed in Grant I Silver City which now has a case load of 3300 cases and growing daily. This increase will affect the timeliness and efficient handling of the Silver City cases.

WHEREAS, if the Bayard Court is eliminated, their clerks may or may not be transferred to the Silver City Court. If the Bayard clerks are transferred to the Silver City Court there are no spaces or work stations for them in the Silver City Court. The State would have to build a new court in Silver City to handle the additional clerks, and these same clerks already have ample space and work stations at the court in Bayard.

WHEREAS, with the transfer of the Bayard Court cases to the Silver City Court and the growing cases, the Silver City Court would need another judge. The Silver City Court has only one courtroom and office space for one judge. The State would need to build another Court and parking for the additional judge. Bayard Court has a new court with ample space for the existing judge and staff.

— WHEREAS, best projections of future growth show continued growth in the corridor east of Silver City from Arenas Valley through Santa Clara, Bayard and onto the Mimbres Valley with Bayard well-situated to serve the expanding needs of this outlying community.

WHEREAS, in short, the elimination of the Bayard Magistrate Court Division II in Grant County makes no sense either from an economic perspective or in terms of serving the basic needs of the citizenry.

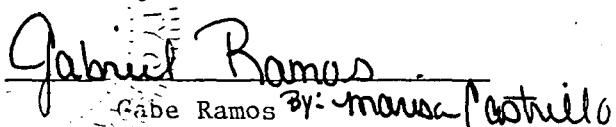
WHEREAS, the Bayard Court now serves the Mining District, which is predominately Hispanic with a Hispanic judge.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT SAID AND RESOLVED that the commission of the County of Grant, State of New Mexico adamantly opposes SENATE BILL 4.

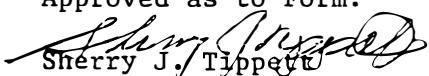
PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 24 day of January 2002


Henry Torres
Chair, Grant County Commissioner

ATTEST:


Gabe Ramos by: manna castillo

Approved as to Form:


Sherry J. Tippett