

Grant County  
**RESOLUTION 2007- 52**

**Opposition to Medicaid Regulation Restricting Medicaid Payments to  
Public Providers**

WHEREAS, County Hospitals and County Designated hospitals are an essential part of the safety net in New Mexico, and given the impoverished and rural nature of our state, are often a sole source of emergency, tertiary and even primary care for many people;

WHEREAS, many hospitals in New Mexico are dependent upon Sole Community Provider Hospital Funds for their existence, and may be forced to close their doors, or be sold, if the federal base match of \$ 97.5 million (Fiscal Year 2008) were eliminated;

WHEREAS, many New Mexicans under 65 lack health insurance, 11% are uninsured year round and 46% are uninsured at least part of the year, and continue to rely on hospitals for basic care for their children, and for control of infectious and chronic diseases;

WHEREAS, the loss of County Hospitals and County Designated hospitals will deplete our communities of specialists, and will result in enormous recruitment challenges for primary care clinics, threatening their viability;

WHEREAS, hospitals are an absolutely essential requirement for an even moderately successful response to an epidemic, a pandemic, a natural disaster, or a terrorist attack;

WHEREAS, the regulations proposed by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services would cut at least \$ 5.0 billion in Medicaid funding for safety net hospitals nationwide over five years, and an estimated \$ 528.1 of federal base match for New Mexico, thus shifting fiscal responsibilities to already over-extended county governments;

WHEREAS, previous cuts in funding for health care, education, economic development and other essential community services have negatively impacted communities, resulting in higher expenditures for law enforcement and emergency medical care, much of which is tasked to county or other local government;

WHEREAS, failure to extend a moratorium on the rules imposed through the recent supplemental appropriations bill (P.L. 110-28, Section 7002) will result in the imposition of draconian measures on May 25, 2008;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF GRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THAT GRANT COUNTY STRONGLY URGES SUPPORT FOR HR 3533, "THE PRESERVE OUR PUBLIC AND TEACHING HOSPITALS ACT."

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED THIS 13TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

APPROVED:

Joseph Smart  
(COMMISSIONER)  
Wayne Sandoval  
(COMMISSIONER)  
John J. Morris  
(COMMISSIONER)

ATTEST:

Howie (Howie) Morales

COUNTY CLERK

Dy. Deputy Clerk  
3rd Deputy Clerk

STATE OF NM, GRANT COUNTY  
200707302

I hereby certify that this instrument was filed for record on 12/26/2007 at 01:55:40 PM & duly recorded in book 269 page 7303 Pages 2 of 2 Witness my hand & seal of office HOWIE MORALES, COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY- ROBERT