County of Grant
State of New Mexico

Resolution No. R-21-13

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REINSTATEMENT OF A STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM IN NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, New Mexico livestock producers have historically been known for producing high quality meat; and

WHEREAS, Annual cash receipts for livestock products in New Mexico are valued at more than $2 billion dollars, with meat animals accounting for $824 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, some 80 percent of the beef packing industry needs are serviced by only four companies; and

WHEREAS, Increasingly this packer concentration has limited the income of meat producers, retailers, and others in the food production chain; raised the cost of meat for consumers and even limited the ability of some consumers to purchase meat; and

WHEREAS, The pandemic of 2020 affirmed the ills of this packer concentration for producers, consumers and animals alike; and

WHEREAS, Many consumers are now demanding to know where their food comes from and how it is raised, and demonstrating a preference for purchasing locally grown meat; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico does not currently have a regulatory process in place that would foster the sale and purchase of locally grown meat products; and

WHEREAS, There is public, legislative and administrative support to reinstate New Mexico meat inspection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Grant County supports the reinstatement of an adequately funded state meat inspection for New Mexico.

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the State of New Mexico recognize the needed changes to the State Meat Inspection Program and that the current system fails to support New Mexico meat producers, retailers, and consumers.

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Passed, Approved and Adopted by the Board of Grant County Commissioners this 11th day of February 2021.

BOARD OF GRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chris Ponce, Chairman

Harry Brodie, Vice Chair

Gerald W. Billings, Jr., Member

Alicia Edwards, Member

Javier Salas, Member

ATTEST:

Marisa Castrillo, County Clerk