RESOLUTION 026-2016

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NEW MEXICO SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION-52ND LEGISLATURE, SECOND SESSION 2016-
PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 2, SECTION 13 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, the Senate Joint Resolution proposes a Constitutional Amendment to address two issues: the ability of judges to deny pretrial release to those accused of crime who, after a hearing, are found to pose an undue risk of dangerousness to the community and to those who are at risk for not appearing for trial; and, to provide the opportunity for release to those accused who do not pose such risks, regardless of their ability to pay for bond;

WHEREAS, Catron County provides detention facilities to house those awaiting trial;

WHEREAS, Catron County provides law enforcement personnel who are charged with seeking, apprehending, and transporting those accused offenders, both residents and non-residents of the County, who fail to appear for trial;

WHEREAS, residents of Catron County experience some violent crime;

WHEREAS, many residents of Catron County experience financial hardship;

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment seeks to keep those accused of the most serious offenses behind bars, as well as those who may flee the jurisdiction to avoid trial, thereby tending to keep residents of the County safer;

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment, by keeping those who pose undue risk detained, will lessen the burden on law enforcement to seek and apprehend those with warrants for not appearing for trial and will lessen the burden on our detention facilities that often house those who simply cannot afford bond but who do not pose undue risk if released pending trial;

WHEREAS, Catron County supports the proposal of the Senate Joint Resolution to amend the Constitution of the State of New Mexico because such an amendment should help avoid harm befalling residents of Catron County perpetrated by those who should be incarcerated; because it should help to conserve valuable County resources that can be better spent patrolling our roads and communities; because it should save
limited detention facility space for those who pose undue risk to residents of the County; and, because those who can be safely released are not detained at County expense simply because they cannot afford bond.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Catron County supports the Senate Joint Resolution proposing an Amendment to Article 2, Section 13 of the Constitution of New Mexico.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 12th day of November, 2015, in regular session of the Catron County Commission, at Reserve, Catron County, New Mexico.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CATRON COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ATTEST:

M. Keith Riddle, Clerk

Glyn Griffin, Chairman

Anita A. Hand, Member

Van J. "Bucky" Allred, Member