



## NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

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### 2017 NMAC LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The following were selected as priorities by the NMAC Board of Directors for the 2017 session. These are in no particular order.

- **Whistleblower Protection Act**

Support amendments to, among other things, better define the definition of “good faith” by requiring some minimal threshold of evidence to file a claim, narrow the definition of “retaliatory action,” limit “unlawful or improper act(s)” to violations of state or federal law, and narrow the universe of individuals to whom a complaint may be communicated as a precondition to filing a claim.

- **New Mexico 911 Act Revision**

Support an amendment to the 911 surcharge statute (63-9D, NMSA 1978) to ensure all technologies utilizing 911 services are contributing equally to the New Mexico 911 fund.

- **Forfeiture Act**

Support amendments to the Forfeiture Act that remove unreasonable burdens placed on law enforcement agencies, allow law enforcement agencies to retain forfeited property under limited circumstances, clarify appropriate use of forfeiture, and ensure that due process rights of parties involved are honored.

- **Capital Outlay for Non-Governmental Entities**

Support recommendations that allow local Board of County Commissioners to: accept, approve, and review non-governmental entities’ capital outlay funds and their fiscal impacts to county’s finances prior to submission to the state legislature; suspend acceptance of 2017 legislative session capital outlay funds for purchase of vehicles, information technology, and any capital outlay expenditure of less than \$50,000; and authorize the collection of a 3% administrative fee.

#### NMAC Key Policy Statements

- Supports gross receipts tax reform that improves economic efficiency and development, ease of administration, and overall fairness, and opposes any legislation that has a significant negative effect on county revenues
- Opposes preemption of local authority
- Opposes unfunded mandates imposed on county government