



NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

2018 NMAC LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- **Forfeiture Act Reform**

Support legislation that would correct the unintended consequences of the 2015 amendments to the NM Forfeiture Act to address federal equitable sharing, storage of abandoned property, and expand local authority to seize and dispose of forfeited property while preserving due process protections.

- **Protecting County Funding of Healthcare**

Support the significant involvement of county policy makers in federal, state, and local healthcare, human services, and Medicaid planning, funding, and service delivery decision-making, and oppose any measure that would further shift federal and state healthcare costs to county government.

- **Tax Reform**

Support legislation that protects county revenue and does not have a negative impact on county government. NMAC strongly believes that counties must be at the table for and fully participate in all tax reform efforts; strives to minimize tax policy that places counties and other local governments in conflict; and opposes any efforts that reduce the state's hold harmless distribution to counties or that reduces county GRT authority.

- **Local Election Act**

Support legislation that would enact the Local Election Act, aligning the date for local, non-partisan elections with taxation authority, to the same day in the odd-numbered year.

- **Maintain Current Level of Liquor Excise Tax Distribution to LDWI Fund**

Support legislation that would maintain the current level of increased distribution percentage from the State Liquor Excise Tax to the Local DWI Grant Fund.

- **Criminal Justice Reform**

Support continued and adequate funding for county detention facilities, as well as adequate community behavioral health services, and effective diversion of individuals with serious mental illness and substance abuse problems, from those detention facilities. (Pending final NMAC Board of Directors approval)