



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, OCTOBER IS CELEBRATED AS NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH THROUGH THE CONGRESSIONAL ACT H.R. 1655 OF 2010 WHICH ENCOURAGES SCHOOLS AND LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES TO USE LOCAL PRODUCE IN MEALS, AND ENCOURAGES SCHOOLS, FARMERS, FARM GROUPS, NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS, BUSINESSES, CHURCHES, CITIES, STATE GOVERNMENT, AND OTHER LOCAL GROUPS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF FARM TO SCHOOL EFFORTS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES; AND

WHEREAS, STATE FUNDING TO NEW MEXICO'S SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES, SPECIFICALLY TO PURCHASE NEW MEXICO-GROWN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR SCHOOL MEALS WILL ENHANCE THE DIETS OF MORE THAN 333,266 STUDENTS, PROMOTE HEALTHIER LIFESTYLES, INCREASE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, AND SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL FARMERS, ENTREPRENEURS, AND COMMUNITIES; AND

WHEREAS, AN INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH WILL HELP STEM THE RISE IN CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN NEW MEXICO, WHERE 34 PERCENT OF CHILDREN ARE OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE; AND

WHEREAS, SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS NOT ONLY FEED HUNGRY CHILDREN AND SUPPORT FAMILY WELL-BEING, BUT ALSO ACT AS "ECONOMIC STABILIZERS" DURING ECONOMIC DOWNTURNS; AND

WHEREAS, THE GROWING NUMBER OF COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL GARDENS PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT WAY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO ENGAGE IN GROWING FOOD, PROVIDE A WAY FOR CHILDREN TO LEARN ABOUT NUTRITION AND LIFE SCIENCES; AND

WHEREAS, TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS, PROGRAMS SUCH AS LOCAL AND SCHOOL-BASED FARM TO SCHOOL INITIATIVES, FOODCORPS, AMERICORPS, FOOD POLICY COUNCILS, HEALTH COUNCILS, HEALTH EQUITY PARTNERSHIPS, AND MANY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES HELP TO COORDINATE PROGRAMS AND MAKE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HEALTH, THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT, AND POLICIES; AND

WHEREAS, STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT FOR EVERY DOLLAR THAT GOES TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS, \$1.80 IS CIRCULATED IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY, AND THAT SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS PROMOTE HEALTHIER LIFESTYLES AND BETTER ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, AND ARE A WISE INVESTMENT IN THE HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE AND FUTURE WORKFORCE;

NOW THEREFORE, I, SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2018 AS

"NEW MEXICO FARM TO SCHOOL AND SCHOOL NUTRITION MONTH"

THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

SIGNED AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 10TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018.

ATTEST:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

Susana Martinez
SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

