

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY FIFTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-23-170 ENACTMENT NO. R-2023-084

SPONSORED BY: Dan Lewis, Brook Bassan, Louie Sanchez, and Renée Grout

1 RESOLUTION  
2 URGING COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
3 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AT THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE SESSION.  
4 WHEREAS, New Mexico has been grappling with a significantly elevated  
5 violent crime rate; and  
6 WHEREAS, it is imperative for the state to take proactive measures to  
7 prevent crime and ensure the incarceration of dangerous criminals; and  
8 WHEREAS, New Mexico has recorded substantial revenue surpluses in  
9 recent years, demonstrating the state's capacity for substantial investments in  
10 public safety and healthcare; and  
11 WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico Annual Financial Report for 2020  
12 indicated a total revenue of \$7.8 billion; and  
13 WHEREAS, the Legislative Finance Committee's (LFC) August Money  
14 Matters report has projected recurring revenues for FY23 at \$11.641 billion,  
15 reflecting a significant increase of \$1.966 billion or 20.3% from FY22; and  
16 WHEREAS, the same report estimated that revenue for 2024 would reach  
17 \$12.611 billion; and  
18 WHEREAS, the Legislative Finance Committee Activity Report has noted  
19 recurring revenues for FY23 through March at \$8.99 billion, a substantial  
20 increase of \$1.9 billion or 27.7% from the same period in the previous year,  
21 surpassing the December estimate by 7.8%; and  
22 WHEREAS, the behavioral health system in New Mexico, particularly  
23 substance abuse treatment, has been failing its residents, causing widespread  
24 harm; and

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1       WHEREAS, drug addiction has been identified as one of the root causes of  
2 crime, necessitating comprehensive efforts to address both property and  
3 violent crime; and

4       WHEREAS, people charged with violent crimes pose a significant threat to  
5 our community; and

6       WHEREAS, in August of 2021, Governor Lujan Grisham unequivocally  
7 declared her support for a "rebuttable presumption" as a critical measure to  
8 address the revolving door of violent crime that has plagued our state stating,  
9 "I believe a rebuttable presumption for individuals accused of violent crimes  
10 can be a wedge in the revolving door of repeat violent offenses that have  
11 characterized the worst aspects of the crime our state continues to  
12 experience"; and

13       WHEREAS, the State House and the State Senate appropriated \$10 million  
14 for warrant enforcement; and

15       WHEREAS, Governor Lujan Grisham said, "If you're abusing the pretrial  
16 system in New Mexico: Your time is up," in her press release announcing the  
17 release of the warrant enforcement funds; and

18       WHEREAS, repeat violent offenders who use firearms in the commission of  
19 their crime pose a greater threat to the public; and

20       WHEREAS, Alex Piquero, a criminologist at the University of Texas at  
21 Dallas, said "A routine finding in the criminological literature is that about half  
22 of the crime is committed by a very small fraction of the population."

23 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**  
24 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

25       Section 1. The Governor should consider calling a special legislative  
26 session, and the Governor, New Mexico House, and New Mexico Senate  
27 should prioritize addressing the behavioral health crisis in New Mexico and  
28 create a comprehensive plan allocating the necessary resources to combat  
29 the opioid and methamphetamine addiction epidemic, enhance mental health  
30 services, and improve addiction treatment access throughout the state.

31       Section 2. The Governor should consider calling a special legislative  
32 session, and the Governor, New Mexico House, and New Mexico Senate is  
33 encouraged to prioritize reform of the pretrial detention system including the

1 implementation of a "rebuttable presumption" for individuals charged with  
2 murder, gun crimes, rape, human trafficking, or other serious sex crimes.

3 Section 3. The Governor should consider calling a special legislative  
4 session, and the Governor, New Mexico House, and New Mexico Senate  
5 should prioritize continued funding of the warrant enforcement program at  
6 current levels for the next five years.

7 Section 4. The Governor should consider calling a special legislative  
8 session, and the Governor, New Mexico House, and New Mexico Senate  
9 should prioritize passing legislation that imposes a lifetime sentence for  
10 repeat offenders who use firearms in the commission of the violent crime after  
11 committing a third violent offense.

12 Section 5. The City Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this Resolution to  
13 the Governor of New Mexico, the New Mexico Legislature, and the City of  
14 Albuquerque State Legislative Delegation.

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1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF October, 2023  
2 BY A VOTE OF: 6 FOR 3 AGAINST.


3  
4 FOR: Bassan, Benton, Grout, Lewis, Peña, Sanchez  
5 AGAINST: Davis, Fiebelkorn, Jones  
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9 Pat Davis, President  
10 City Council  
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14 APPROVED THIS 15 DAY OF October, 2023  
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18 Bill No. R-23-170  
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23 Timothy M. Keller, Mayor  
24 City of Albuquerque  
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27 ATTEST:

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30 Ethan Watson, City Clerk  
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