

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO CONCERNED WITH SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS OF SAN MIGUEL COUNTY A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE COUNTY'S AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX REVENUES FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 2019 AND THEREAFTER, AND TO INCREASE THE COUNTY'S REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUES RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR 2019 AND THEREAFTER, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH TAX REVENUES FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED

Resolution No. 2018-___

WHEREAS, mental health and wellness are vitally important for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of San Miguel County; and

WHEREAS, mental health and substance abuse treatment services in our communities, counties, state and country are inadequate to address the needs of our residents; and

WHEREAS, mental health and well-being is a statewide issue which impacts our residents' ability to live fully productive lives:

- Over 1 million Coloradans will experience a mental health or a substance use disorder this year, and more than half of those individuals will not receive the care they need, and
- Suicide is the leading cause of death in Colorado for children and young adults aged 10-24, and
- More than a thousand Coloradans died by suicide in 2016, far above the national average; and

WHEREAS, in rural San Miguel County individuals who experience a mental health or substance use disorder have limited access to services and San Miguel County faces a shortage of mental health and substance abuse treatment and prevention programs;

- One in five of our residents reported 8 or more days of poor mental health in the past 30 days, and
- One in six of our adult residents reported binge drinking one or more times within the past 30 days, and
- One in six of the high school students in our schools reported considering suicide in the past 12 months and,
- One in five of the high school students in our schools felt sad or hopeless two weeks or more in the past 12 months, and
- San Miguel County has experienced 12 suicides since 2016; and

WHEREAS, prevention and early intervention of mental health and substance use disorders increases student graduation rates and employment rates, and reduces rates of hospitalization, incarceration, suicide and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, providing mental health and substance abuse treatment and prevention programs is a critical investment for our community. The shortage of available services and providers impacts the lives and well-being of our community members; and

WHEREAS, the San Miguel Behavioral Health Commission and Tri-County Health Network have requested voter approval at the November 2018 coordinated election in San Miguel County for a referred Ballot Measure which proposes a property tax of three-quarters of one mill (0.75) for funding community-based mental health and substance abuse treatment services in San Miguel County; and

WHEREAS, the approval of the mill levy will benefit San Miguel County residents by improving access to mental health and substance abuse programs throughout the County and will provide funding to build on existing resources and programs in the County; and

WHEREAS, the funds generated from the proposed mill levy shall be designated exclusively for funding community-based mental health and substance abuse treatment services in San Miguel County, to meet existing and future needs, including:

- Mental health counselors and programs in schools;
- Mental health and substance abuse crisis and emergency response services;
- Suicide prevention programs;
- Alcohol, opioid and substance abuse prevention and treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, such funds to be deposited into a dedicated San Miguel County fund entitled the Mental Health Services Fund, and such funds shall not be available for any other purpose; and

WHEREAS, the funds generated from the mill levy shall be apportioned by the Board of County Commissioners in consideration of the annual recommendations of a mental health advisory panel consisting of representatives selected by the Board of County Commissioners. At a minimum, this panel will contain one San Miguel County Commissioner or his/her representative, two representatives recommended by each of the regional medical centers located in San Miguel County, one representative recommended by the regional behavioral health service provider for San Miguel County, one representative recommended jointly by the Norwood and Telluride School Districts, and two community members at large selected by the Board of County Commissioners. The panel will make data driven decisions annually that inform the distribution of funds among various programs designed to address the specific needs of the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 20 of Article X of the Colorado Constitution, no District may impose any property tax mill levy above that for the prior year without obtaining voter approval; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. §29-1-301, C.R.S. requires voter approval for imposition of an additional levy that exceeds the annual authorized County property tax increase of 5.5 percent above the revenue generated in the previous year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ballot initiative would result in an increase of **\$5.40** per year per \$100,000 of residential property value and that the total assessed valuation would generate an estimated **\$618,381.00** in additional property tax revenue each year; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners does hereby find and determine that the health, safety and welfare of San Miguel County residents and other members of the public would benefit from the proposed mill levy if the majority of San Miguel County electors casting ballots at the November 6, 2018 coordinated election approve such an increase in the County's property tax mill levy to be dedicated to the County's Mental Health Services Fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SAN MIGUEL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following ballot question and title is hereby referred and submitted to the registered electors of San Miguel County, Colorado, at the November 6, 2018 election:

SHALL SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO, TAXES BE INCREASED **\$618,381.00** ANNUALLY THROUGH A SAN MIGUEL COUNTY 2019 AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY OF THREE - QUARTERS (0.75) OF ONE MILL, AND FOR EACH YEAR THEREAFTER BY THE AMOUNT OF THE ADDITIONAL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX REVENUE THAT IS GENERATED IN THOSE SUBSEQUENT YEARS, WHICH IS **\$5.40** PER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS OF A HOME'S 2019 APPRAISED VALUE; TO FUND COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, INCLUDING:

- MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS;
- MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES;
- SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS;
- ALCOHOL, OPIOID AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS;

PROVIDED THAT THE FUNDS SHALL BE BUDGETED TO A DEDICATED SAN MIGUEL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FUND AND APPROPRIATED BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF AN INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY PANEL SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. AT A MINIMUM, THIS PANEL WILL INCLUDE ONE SAN MIGUEL COUNTY COMMISSIONER OR HIS/HER REPRESENTATIVE, ONE REPRESENTATIVE RECOMMENDED BY EACH OF THE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTERS LOCATED IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, ONE REPRESENTATIVE RECOMMENDED JOINTLY BY THE TELLURIDE AND NORWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICTS, ONE REPRESENTATIVE RECOMMENDED BY THE REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDER FOR SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, AND TWO COMMUNITY MEMBERS AT LARGE TO BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND SHALL SAN MIGUEL COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE ITS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE LIMITS BEYOND THOSE AUTHORIZED BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, AND SECTION 29-

1-301, C.R.S, FOR THE 2019 FISCAL YEAR AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR THEREAFTER, TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUES TO BE BUDGETED AND APPROPRIATED TO THE COUNTY'S DEDICATED FUND FOR THE PURPOSES STATED HEREIN ABOVE? _____ YES _____ NO

DONE AND APPROVED by the San Miguel County Board of County Commissioners at a duly noticed public meeting held in Telluride, Colorado on this 22nd day of August, 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO**

By: _____
Kris Holstrom, Chair

ATTEST:

Hilary Cooper	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Kris Holstrom	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Joan May	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent

Chief Deputy Clerk to the Board