

New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council (NMFAPC)

2021 Legislative Proposal Submission Form

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 2020

Each year, NMFAPC members are encouraged to bring policy issues for consideration that fall generally within the contours of the Policy Council enunciated preamble, mission, vision, values, purposes, and guiding principles. Policy issues proposed for support at the upcoming legislative session will receive further consideration and deliberation by the Policy Council. Each qualifying legislative proposal will be placed on one of five Tiers (lead, endorse, support, neutral or oppose). The Legislative Advocacy Team will act in the capacity to implement the Tier placement selections and is given discretion to make immediate decisions during the Legislative Session with the obligation to report back formally to the full Policy Council membership.

Guidelines for Proposals

The Policy Council reviews requests for potential legislation using the following criteria:

- Does it have statewide or potential statewide focus or impact.
- AND any of the following:
- Advance keeping food grown, raised, processed and consumed in NM.
 - Supports the NMFAPC Values and Equity Statements.
 - Does the issue already have sufficient lobbying support?
 - Does the issue have support of the food and agriculture communities?
 - Does it fit within the capacity of our lobbyist to contribute actual lobbying support (aside from tracking)?
 - Is it politically viable?

Proposals submitted using this form will have priority by the Legislative Team. Proposals that do not meet these guidelines will not be accepted. Should you have questions as to whether your proposal meets these guidelines, before submitting this form, please contact Pam Roy pam@farmtotablenm.org or Susan Wilger swilger@swchi.org Thank you!

Organization/Sponsor Information

Please tell us about the person/organization sponsoring this legislative proposal. This information will be used to contact you if we need more information, and will be included in the 2018 Policy Proposals booklet.

*** = Required**

- Name of Sponsoring Organization*: NM Healthy Soil Working Group
- Contact person(s) *: Robb Hirsch
- Best contact email address *: rhirsch@edlconsulting.us

- Best contact phone number *: 505-603-1976
- Website: www.nmhealthysoil.org

Legislation Information

Please tell us about your legislative proposal.

1. Brief description of proposed legislation (450 characters, maximum)

We propose a bill enabling NM residents with tax refunds to contribute to the Healthy Soil Program. The more support there is for this program the more we all benefit especially farmers and ranchers, the environment, our public health and New Mexico's emerging regenerative food economy. Providing creative funding mechanisms during a time of limited state resources is crucial. This proposal has backing from so many including NMDA Secretary Jeff Witte.

2. Background (3-4 sentences)

The Healthy Soil Act (HB 204) was enacted with overwhelming bipartisan support in 2019. Currently there are 17 state programs which residents can donate their tax refunds to if they like. This would add a unique and important program to the list which directly supports a healthy land of enchantment.

3. Where is this issue in the legislative process? Check all that apply.

- Still in planning/discussion phase
- Presented to interim committees
- **X - the Bill is being revised by the house tax cmte and LCS**
- Requested appropriation
- **X - We Have sponsor**
- Other:

4. If you have sponsor, who will sponsor this legislation?

Representative Christine Chandler

5. If you have someone (individual or organization) who will lobby for this initiative, please indicate. NM Healthy Soil Working Group will advocate for this with help from NMDA, agriculture and environmental organizations and others.

6. What kinds of support are you seeking for your proposal from NMFAPC? Check all that apply.

- **X - Be a leading team member** advocating for this legislation
- **X - Support legislation through emails, attendance at hearings, etc.**
- **X - Send action alerts to membership/email lists**
- **X - Sign on to endorsement letters**
- Other: all of the above

7. What other organizations are working with you to support this legislation?

We will collaborate with and have teamwork support from many organizations including NMACD and 350.org

*Email your proposal to Pam Roy pam@farmtotablenm.org or Susan Wilger swilger@swchi.org.
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