

# **New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council (NMFAPC)**

## **2020-21 Legislative Proposal Submission Form**

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### **SUBMISSION**

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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 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@farmitablenm.org](mailto:pam@farmitablenm.org) or Susan Wilger [swilger@swchi.org](mailto: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\*: New Mexico School Nutrition Association
- Contact person(s) \*: Janet Sanchez, Marie Johnson, and Virginia Schroder
- Best contact email address \*:
- Best contact phone number \*:

- Website:

Please tell us about your legislative proposal.

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

### **NM Food and Agriculture Experiential Learning Grant Program:**

Maintain the following programs and funding in the NM Public Education Student Success & Wellness Bureau budget 2021-22 (FY 2022) request to the legislature:

- 1) Breakfast After the Bell
- 2) NM Grown Fruits and Vegetables for School Meals
- 3) Reduce Co-Pay for School Meals

## **2. Background (3-4 sentences)**

It is important to maintain these school nutrition programs now and beyond the pandemic as vital to school meal programs.

Due to the Covid-19, NM school nutrition programs face major budget shortfalls. As schools are closed and have had to adapt to “curbside meal pick up” many school districts are experiencing lower numbers in participation for many reason. Yet, at the same time school districts continue to prepare meals, pay for the food and staff to prepare the meals. Any meals not picked up by students and families cannot be reimbursed through the federal school meal programs. Thus, School Food Authorities continue to pay for food and staff without being reimbursed for some of those costs. Even meeting payroll is a struggle. School Districts are having to help support the school nutrition programs.

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

- Still in planning/discussion phase
- Presented to interim committees
- Bill drafted :
- Requested appropriation;
- Have sponsor:
- X Other: Maintain the following programs and funding in the NM Public Education Student Success & Wellness Bureau budget

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

No sponsor needed, yet the NMSNA will reach out to Representative Gail Armstrong on the Legislative Finance Committee for advice. Maintain the following programs and funding in the NM Public Education Student Success & Wellness Bureau budget.

## **5. If you have someone (individual or organization) who will lobby for this initiative, please indicate.**

Breakfast After the Bell: NM School Nutrition Association to take lead

NM Grown Fruits and Vegetables for School Meals: NMFAPC to take lead and NM School Nutrition Association to support

Reduce Co-Pay for School Meals: NM School Nutrition Association to take lead

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

- X Be a lead on advocating for this legislation and support (see above)
- X Support legislation through emails, attendance at hearings, etc.:
- X Send action alerts to membership/email lists:
- X Sign on to endorsement letters:
- Other:

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

New Mexico School Nutrition Association, NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council, Farm to Table

*Email your proposal to Pam Roy [pam@farmitablenm.org](mailto:pam@farmitablenm.org) or Susan Wilger [swilger@swchi.org](mailto:swilger@swchi.org).*