

# **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\*: **Alliance for Local Economic Prosperity**
- Contact person(s) \*: **Angela Merkert, Executive Director**
- Best contact email address \*: **angela.merkert@gmail.com**
- Best contact phone number \*:**505-603-8400**

- Website: [AFLEP.org](http://AFLEP.org)
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### *Legislation Information*

Please tell us about your legislative proposal.

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

The Public Banking Act will establish a State Public Bank to improve the state's focus, efficiency and effectiveness in the management of its funds. The public bank's mission is to collaborate with community banks, credit unions and local governments in order to increase social capital, extend infrastructure and regenerates natural assets. Among these investments would be regenerative agriculture, expanding food production and processing, and protect water resources and the environment.

Ag regenerative

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

The Alliance for Local Economic Prosperity (AFLEP), New Mexico's Public Banking Think Tank, has been working for 10 years to bring a public bank to New Mexico. The proposed public bank for New Mexico would accept and invest only public funds, working with local governments and school districts to provide infrastructure loans in place of expensive bonds, and with community banks, credit unions and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) to partner on loan programs for local economic development. Local investment keeps money circulating in the community, and the interest returns to the state to be used again and again at the local level.

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

- Still in planning/discussion phase -
- Presented to interim committees
- Bill drafted : The Public Banking Act is currently in final edit stages as feedback from AFLEP supporters and other legislators is gathered.
- Requested appropriation;
- Have sponsor:
- Other:

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

Senator Jeff Steinborn from Las Cruces will likely be the lead sponsor of this bill although a number of senators and representatives have expressed interest in this proposal.

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

Lobbyists: Dan Mayfield and Amy Miller from Leverage Point, The Credit Union Association of NM, and The Alliance for Local Economic Prosperity will also have citizen lobbyists.

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

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

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

The Credit Union Association of New Mexico, The Green Chamber of Commerce from across New Mexico, NM Healthy Soils , and NM Working Families Party.

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