

RESOLUTION OF ALAMOSA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RE: A RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATTLEMEN AND OTHER LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS IN ALAMOSA COUNTY, COLORADO.

WHEREAS, Alamosa County, is a political subdivision of the State of Colorado and is one of six counties located in the San Luis Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Colorado has proclaimed March 20, 2021 as “MEATOUT DAY” and encourages all Coloradoans to “remove animal products from [their] diets”; and

WHEREAS, the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recognizes that a variety of animal and plant proteins is important to a healthy diet; and

WHEREAS, cattle, livestock, and the production of crops supporting the livestock industry has historically been, and continues to be, one of the key economic drivers in Alamosa, County; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, The North American Meat Institute reported a direct economic impact to the state of Colorado of \$3.7B, and a total economic impact of \$13.2B. This generated nearly \$32M in taxes to the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the USDA 2017 Census of Agriculture reported all animal sales in the San Luis Valley totaled nearly \$57M, of which approximately \$39M was the result of cattle sales; and

WHEREAS, according to the USDA, the San Luis Valley has a current cattle inventory of 85,300 head; and

WHEREAS, the number of jobs in agribusiness in the San Luis Valley is 4,984, which represents 25.6% of all traditional base jobs and is the largest traditional base industry employer of the San Luis Valley; and

WHEREAS, Alamosa County is declared as a “Right to Farm and Ranch” county and fully supports the agriculture community; and

WHEREAS, Alamosa County continues to be an active member of the agricultural community by its support of Colorado State University Extension Services, youth 4-H programs; and the San Luis Valley Fair Board; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Assembly is considering passage of Senate Bill 21-079 which concerns deregulation of direct to customer meat sales in support of ranch to table private enterprise.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ALAMOSA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that the Alamosa County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the agricultural business of Alamosa County and the San Luis Valley and proclaims March 20, 2021 as Alamosa County Ranching and Agricultural Day, and Alamosa County “MEAT-IN” day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners encourages the community to continue to support local businesses by celebrating “MEAT-IN” day at your local restaurant of choice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners expresses its concern that the Governor of Colorado would call for the boycott, even for one day, of an industry that is so vital to our local and state economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, that the Board of County Commissioners supports Senate Bill 21-079 concerning deregulation of direct to customer meat sales in support of ranch to table private enterprise and for all other legislative actions that support strengthening Colorado agriculture.

DATED: 10th day of March, 2021, by unanimous vote

Michael Yohn, Chairman

(SEAL)

ATTEST

Belina Ramirez, Deputy Clerk of the Board