BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF GARFIELD COUNTY, NEBRASKA

RESOLUTION 2021 - 18

WHEREAS, Garfield County is a legal and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, for which the Board of Commissioners (the Board) is entitled to act; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, the President of the United States issued Executive Order 14008 (86 Fed. Reg. 7,619), entitled *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*, and

WHEREAS, In Section 216 of the order, the President directs the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with other cabinet officials and agencies, to (1) submit a report recommending steps to be taken by the federal government, working with state and local governments and other key stakeholders to achieve the goal of "conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030", (2) solicit input from key stakeholders on strategies to encourage broad support and participation in what has become known as the 30 x 30 Program, and (3) propose guidelines for determining whether lands and waters qualify for "conservation" and measuring progress toward the 30 percent goal, and

WHEREAS, Section 216 is essentially a single-page statement of a policy goal which does not provide an adequate definition or description of the proposed policy. As written, it lacks definition or explanation of the nature and scope of proposed "conservation" efforts or restrictions which may affect current and future use or transfer of public or private lands and waters. It does not address issues of particular concern to local and county governments, including the potential impact on land valuation and usage and its effect on local tax revenue streams. Importantly, Section 216 does not address the cost of the program or how it is to be paid for.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners stands in opposition to establishment and/or implementation of the "30 x 30 Program" as written, by Executive Order, without adequate study and full participation of Congress as well as state and local governments and other affected parties. The Board further resolves to continue to monitor further developments, including executive actions or regulations adopted pursuant to the Executive Order.

The Board of Commissioners of Garfield County, Nebraska

Scott Krause, Chair

Lee Jeffres, Commissioner

Diana Hurlburt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Keri Koenigsberg, Garfield County Clerk