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January 22, 2016

New Mexico Municipal League
Attn: William F. Fulginiti, Executive Director
P.O. Box 846
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

New Mexico Municipal League
Mayors' Caucus
Attn: Gregory D. Hull, Mayor of Rio Rancho
P.O. Box 846
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Subject: Proposed Return to Work Legislation -- HB171

Gentlemen:

This letter is a follow-up to the individual letter I sent to each of you last week wherein I expressed the City of Farmington's general support for "return to work" legislation in the context of law enforcement and public utility employment.

Since that time, HB171 has been pre-filed. It is my understanding that this bill is essentially the proposal of the City of Albuquerque to address the "return to work" issues it faces in the context of law enforcement employment.

While the City of Farmington wants to reaffirm its general support for "return to work" legislation, I must advise you, in order to avoid any misunderstanding as this proposed bill is moved through the legislative process, that we do not support HB171 in its current form. The proposal is simply too restrictive as to eligibility for it to be of optimum use to us as we confront our manpower needs now and into the future. Of specific concern to us are the proposed limitations applicable to duration of subsequent service, retirement date, and rank. And, of course, we believe "return to work" reform is germane to fields of public domain employment beyond law enforcement.

Let me know if you have any specific questions about our position on this issue.

Sincerely,

Tommy Roberts
Mayor of Farmington