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HOUSE BILL 565
45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001
I NTRODUCED BY
Robert M. Burpo
AN ACT
RELATING TO COUNTIES; CLARIFYING THAT A COUNTY MAY ISSUE
CHECKS AS WELL AS WARRANTS FOR PAYMENT OF MONEY FROM THE
COUNTY TREASURY; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
Section 1. Section 4-43-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1851-
1852, Page 170, as amended) is amended to read:
"4-43-2. DUTIESThe <u>county</u> treasurer shall keep:
A. account of all [moneys] money received and

di sbursed;

- regular accounts of all checks and warrants B. drawn on the treasury and paid; and
- the books, papers and [moneys] money pertaining C. to his office ready for inspection by the $\underline{board\ of}$ county commissioners at all times."

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Section 2. Section 4-45-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1876, Chapter 1, Section 21, as amended) is amended to read:

"4-45-4. COUNTY ORDERS FOR PAYMENT FROM TREASURY--FORM AND SIGNATURE. -- [Sec. 162.] County orders shall be signed by the chairman of the board of county commissioners and attested by the county clerk and shall specify the nature of the claim of service for which they were issued, and the money shall be paid from the county treasury on such orders and not otherwi se. Money may be paid from the county treasury by check or warrant."

Section 6-6-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1957, Section 3. Chapter 250, Section 6) is amended to read:

APPROVED BUDGETS--CLAIMS OR WARRANTS IN EXCESS "6-6-6. OF BUDGET--LIABILITY. -- When any budget for a local public body [shall have] has been approved and received by a local public body, it [shall be] is binding upon all officials and governing authorities, and no governing authority or official shall allow or approve claims in excess thereof, and no official shall pay any check or warrant in excess thereof, and [such] the allowances or claims or checks or warrants so allowed or paid shall be a liability against the officials so allowing or paying [such] those claims or checks or warrants, and recovery for [such] the excess amounts so allowed or paid may be had against the bondsmen of [such] those officials."