RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING THE
ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESSERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso is directly south of Doña Ana County New Mexico,

WHEREAS, the El Paso – Doña Ana County region is interconnected in many important ways, including ecologically, economically, and culturally,

WHEREAS, Doña Ana County contains a number of areas of exceptional historic and scientific value associated with the Chihuahuan Desert, Southwestern pre American history, life on the American frontier, and emergence of the United States as an international power,

WHEREAS, a diverse coalition of community leaders, citizens, and civic organizations have developed a proposal to protect these important lands as the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument,

WHEREAS, the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument would protect the Organ Mountains, Potrillo volcanic field, Kilbourne Hole, Broad Canyon, and the Doña Ana, Robledo, and Sierra de las Uvas Mountains,

WHEREAS, the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument would also protect important historic sites including stunning petroglyphs and pictographs, the Butterfield Stagecoach Trail, Apollo space mission training sites, World War II aerial targets, Billy the Kid’s Outlaw Rock, Geronimo’s Cave, and historic ranch houses,

WHEREAS, these lands provide unique local recreational opportunities and quality of life for the citizens of El Paso, Fort Bliss, West Texas,

WHEREAS, New Mexico, El Paso and West Texas all benefit by fostering tourism, strengthening the outdoor recreation economy, and preserving the qualities that make this area a desirable location for families, retirees, and business development,

WHEREAS, the preservation of these lands help provide many natural benefits including watershed, air quality, and ecosystem protection, and

WHEREAS, protection of these rich landscapes and their history will support multicultural traditions within the Mesilla Valley, enhance understanding of New Mexico, Texas, and the American West, and benefit all communities within the region by fostering tourism, strengthening outdoor recreation, and preserving the qualities that make this area a desirable location for retirement and business development.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City of El Paso is proud to call for the establishment of the historic Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument in order to preserve areas within our region of historic, scientific, and scenic value for current and future generations, and that the City of El Paso requests that the President of United States use his authority under the 1906 Antiquities Act to establish the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

APPROVED this 2nd day of October, 2012.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

[Signature]
John H. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Richarda Duffy Mounce
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Sylvia Borunda Firth
City Attorney

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Organ Mtn. Desert Peaks Natl. Monument