

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ELECTION SECURITY AND ACCESSIBILITY**

**WHEREAS**, it is important to make voting accessible to all who are eligible in a safe and secure fashion; and,

**WHEREAS**, a secure online voter registration application portal would enable voters in this state, which has one of the lowest voter registration rates in the nation, an easy online alternative to register to vote; and

**WHEREAS**, Texas voter registration laws require Voter Registrars to distribute, receive, decipher, process and archive millions of voter registration cards each year; and

**WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 pandemic, physical voter registration efforts have been difficult due to health concerns; and,

**WHEREAS**, online voter registration would enable state and local voter registrars to dramatically reduce mailing and data entry costs as demonstrated by a study of the Arizona Online Voter Registration System which determined that their costs were lowered from .83 cents per card to .03 cents; and,

**WHEREAS**, citizens of ages between 18 and 29 make up 29% of those eligible to vote in the US; and,

**WHEREAS**, Texas high school voter registration law was adopted in 1985; and,

**WHEREAS**, until 2018 only 34% of schools have taken action to implement the Texas high school voter registration law on their campuses; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS, THAT:**

This 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020, the **Fort Bend County Commissioners Court**, meeting as a body in Richmond, Texas:

1. Supports a secure online voter registration application portal to safely and securely provide an electronic and digital means of applying to register to vote for eligible voters
2. Supporting more efforts to increase civic engagement and voter registration among the youth in our communities

SIGNED, THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2020.

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County Judge KP George

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Commissioner Vincent Morales, Precinct 1

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Commissioner Grady Prestage, Precinct 2

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Commissioner Andy Meyers, Precinct 3

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Commissioner Ken DeMerchant, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

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Laura Richard, County Clerk