FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO RESTRICT THE POWER OF THE LEGISLATURE TO MANDATE REQUIREMENTS UPON CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

On this 25th day of January, 2011, the Commissioners Court, sitting as the governing body of Fort Bend County, Texas, at a regular meeting, a motion was made and duly seconded to support the following resolution.

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County supports a House Joint Resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to restrict the power of the legislature to mandate requirements upon certain local governments;

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County, faces increased demand for services due to its rapid population growth, and

WHEREAS, Counties cannot conduct reliable financial planning and budgeting under circumstances where the state mandates programs that are not fully funded, or withdraws existing funding for county government programs without removing the counties obligation to perform, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that Fort Bend County supports passage of the House Joint Resolution 0056, of the 82nd Texas Legislature to amend the Constitution by adding Section 68, providing that any bill enacted after January 1, 2012, requiring a local government to establish, expand, or modify a duty or activity that requires the expenditure of revenue by the local government shall be effective only when the legislature appropriates or otherwise provides for the payment or reimbursement, from a source other than the revenue of the local government, for the costs incurred for the biennium by the local government in complying with the requirement.

APPROVED this 25th day of January, 2011.

Robert E. Hebert, County Judge

frady Prestage, Commissioner, Pct. 2

mes Patterson, Commissioner, Pct. 4

AFFIRMED:

Richard Morrison, Commissioner, Pct. 1

7.A. "Andy" Meyers, Commissioner, Pct. 3

Dianne Wilson, County

Clerk

By: Jones

HJ.R. No. 56

A JOINT RESOLUTION

- 1 proposing a constitutional amendment to restrict the power of
- 2 the legislature to mandate requirements upon certain local
- 3 governments.
- 4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Article III of the Texas Constitution is
- 6 amended by adding Section 68 as follows:
- Sec. 68. (a) No bill enacted by the legislature on or after
- 8 January 1, 2012 requiring a local government to establish,
- 9 expand, or modify a duty or activity that requires the
- 10 expenditure of revenue by the local government shall be
- 11 effective until and unless the legislature appropriates or
- 12 otherwise provides for the payment or reimbursement, from a
- 13 source other than the revenue of the local government, or the
- 14 costs incurred for the biennium by the local government in
- 15 complying with the requirement.
- (b) For the purpose of this section, "local government"
- 17 includes a county, a city, a hospital district, a community
- 18 college district, or a special district created by the action of
- 19 a county, city, hospital district, or community college.
- 20 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
- 21 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8,
- 22 2011. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or
- 23 against the proposition: " The constitutional amendment to
- 24 restrict the power of the legislature from mandating unfunded

1 requirements upon local governments."