

Fort Bend County Resolution - Revenue Caps

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature places a long list of responsibilities on counties to provide vital functions of government; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County must enforce the laws through the Sheriff's Department, build and operate the jails and support the state's criminal and civil court system; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County must protect the integrity of, and provide public access to, property ownership and transaction records and other vital public documents; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County must conduct state, federal and local elections, register vehicles, assess and collect taxes, provide legal counsel for those in need and pay medical bills for the indigent; and

WHEREAS, in Fort Bend County, road construction is a large and growing expense because state and federal transportation programs have failed to provide adequate highway construction and maintenance funding to keep pace with the rapid population growth; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature mandates that Fort Bend County provide many services but provides no State funding except for a few small grant programs; and

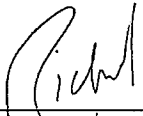
WHEREAS, Fort Bend County collects about 20% of the total property tax bill and Fort Bend homeowners have seen no increase in the property tax rate for over 10 years; and

WHEREAS, revenue caps would diminish local control and would tie the hands of Commissioners Court by limiting its ability to provide services like libraries, EMS response, parks and other essential services; and


WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature's revenue cap will mandate Fort Bend County to conduct an automatic election which is a loss of local control and will cost \$230,000 to the taxpayers of Fort Bend, and

WHEREAS, such caps would shift local control to the Texas Legislature in Austin just like what happened in California, thereby making it difficult for the citizens of Fort Bend County to have a voice in the way their local tax dollars are spent.

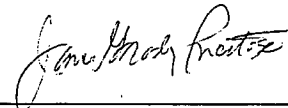
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Fort Bend County Commissioners Court on this the 2nd day of March, 2015, does hereby express its opposition to efforts limiting local control of local government and does hereby oppose any attempts to impose revenue caps upon Texas counties, and the Commissioners Court expresses its deep appreciation to all legislators who oppose these unsound measures.



Commissioner Richard Morrison, Pct. 1



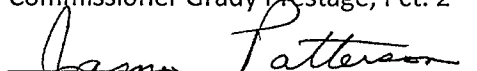
County Judge Robert E. Hebert



Commissioner Grady Prestage, Pct. 2



Commissioner Andy Meyers, Pct. 3



Commissioner James Patterson, Pct. 4

ATTEST:



Laura Richard, County Clerk

