

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATOR JUAN "CHUY" HINOJOSA'S BORDER SECURITY PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, during the summer of 2014, the Rio Grande Valley experienced a humanitarian crisis as a surge of children and families from Central America overwhelmed our communities, and the thousands of immigrants detained in border patrol facilities and makeshift shelters in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions incited concerns and a critical sense of urgency to respond to this unfortunate situation.

**WHEREAS**, although ultimately a federal responsibility, this was a humanitarian issue and one that our residents along the border had to manage.

**WHEREAS**, to handle the humanitarian crisis, the state began a surge of DPS troopers that was soon assisted by the Texas National Guard troops. As of January 2015, the cost of the state's border security efforts has been \$102 million.

**WHEREAS**, utilizing the National Guard creates an image of militarization of the border and sends the wrong message; while simultaneously, a smarter use of our taxpayer dollars is needed to address the security along the border to ensure the safety and security of our families.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa has carefully crafted a Border Security Plan that is efficient, cost effective, and transparent and does not include utilizing the National Guard other than National Guard assets as needed.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Hinojosa's Border Security Plan creates a permanent task force of Texas Rangers in the Rio Grande Valley, addresses the disparity between DPS commissioned officer salaries and city law enforcement, and provides additional funding for local law enforcement agencies.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Hinojosa's Border Security Plan permanently increases the number of Texas Park and Wildlife Game Wardens on the border, adds additional agents for the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, and enhances funding for the Border Prosecution Grant Program to allow District Attorney's to hire an assistant prosecutor and/or investigator whose primary responsibility is to better handle and coordinate prosecution of border crimes.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Hinojosa's Border Security Plan establishes a DPS training facility in the Rio Grande Valley to support the additional increase in law enforcement personnel and reduces the travel time and costs away from duty stations, and to better acquaint themselves with the unique culture and traditions of South Texas to have a familiarity with the region to better serve and protect our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby support Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa's Border Security Plan that is a comprehensive and cost effective strategy that does not militarize the border and ensures the safety of our families in the Rio Grande Valley.**

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup>, day of March 2015.

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RAMON GARCIA  
County Judge

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A.C. CUELLAR, JR.  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

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EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

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JOE M. FLORES  
County Commissioner, Pct.3

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JOSEPH PALACIOS  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

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Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.  
County Clerk