

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP’S PROPOSED BUDGET

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has proposed to move \$54 billion from human and environmental spending to the military, bringing military spending to well over 60 percent of federal discretionary spending; and

WHEREAS, President Trump himself has admitted that enormous military spending of the past 16 years has been disastrous and made the United States less safe, not safer; and

WHEREAS, county governments provide the underlying infrastructure that enables residents to live productive lives in harmony with each other. As the functional arm of state government, key county services are at risk under President Trump’s proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County and governmental entities within the county could lose more than \$45 million in federal funding under the proposed budget. Among the cuts would be more than \$16 million in funding from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Community Services Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, the HOME Investment Partnership Grant, and the Home Energy Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, this funding is a needed resource for Hidalgo County that helps many low to moderate income seniors, families, children and homeless persons and impacts every city in Hidalgo County; and

WHEREAS, each year, CDBG grants-alone, help 447 senior citizens to live independently; provide after school and summer programs for over 2,100 low income youth; provide services for 543 abused and neglected children and 647 battered and abused spouses; provide services and housing support to 2,500 homeless persons and families; helps the local food bank serve 3,157 residents annually and more during disasters; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County residents will also be impacted by the loss in funding that provides access to improved streets, water, sewer, and drainage lines; health services; and transportation services in partnership with the LRGVDC Valley Metro, which serves 478,645 persons annually; and

WHEREAS, proposed budget cuts will remove programs that help stabilize neighborhoods, and take care of the county’s poor, elderly, and children in one of the poorest counties in the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court urges the United States Congress to move our tax dollars back into programs and services that address poverty and road and drainage infrastructure in Hidalgo County.

Approved this 5th day of April, 2017.

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO “EDDIE” CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: **ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**
County Clerk