

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 814
RELATED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AGUA SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

WHEREAS, governments and those in charge of public entities should be held accountable for their actions by their constituents; and

WHEREAS, an elected board that holds itself accountable to nobody inspires distrust and goes against the County of Hidalgo and our nation's values of transparency in government; and

WHEREAS, more than 15,000 customers in the Palmview, Penitas, Sullivan City, parts of La Joya and parts of Mission, as well as the surrounding unincorporated areas are served by the AGUA Special Utility District; and

WHEREAS, people in the communities served by the AGUA Special Utility District have expressed disapproval and concern that AGUA board directors may have a conflict of interest when AGUA employees are also elected officials from local taxing entities that are employers of AGUA Directors; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 814, authored by Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa and filed in 85th Texas Legislature, is meant to address perceived and potential conflicts of interest at the AGUA Special Utility District by banning the employment of individuals who are elected officials of an entity that employs an AGUA Director, or who are related to that elected official, from another local taxing entity within the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court supports all efforts to promote accountability, transparency and stress-free work environments at all levels of government and hereby endorses Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa and the legislation he authored, Senate Bill 814. Furthermore, the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court encourages all like-minded legislators to express their support of an open and transparent government by voting in favor of SB 814.

Approved this ___ 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