

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STRENGTHENING THE TEXAS TRAUMA NETWORK

WHEREAS, the Trauma Network in the State of Texas is comprised of 22 regions and includes 18 Level I Comprehensive Trauma Facilities, 21 Level II Major Trauma Facilities, 56 Level III Advanced Trauma Facilities and 193 Level IV Basic Trauma Facilities; and

WHEREAS, Region V encompasses the counties of Hidalgo, Cameron, Starr and Willacy, with a combined population of over 1.5 million residents and continues to be one of the fastest growing areas in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Valley is situated along the Texas Gulf Coast and is therefore at risk of experiencing widespread and catastrophic flooding and damage which may pose significant threats to life and property due to tropical storms, hurricanes, and other inclement weather events; and

WHEREAS, approximately 40 Texans die every day due to traumatic injuries, and for every Texan that dies from a traumatic injury, at least six are injured; and

WHEREAS, studies show that access to the appropriate level of medical care during the first 60 minutes of trauma (the “Golden Hour”) is critical to saving lives and the American College of Surgeons recommends that each geographic region include a Level I or Level II trauma facility at its center and within a 30 minute transport time and have a Level I trauma facility per 1 million residents; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25% of Texans live in a county not accessible to a Level I trauma facility, and the nearest Level I Comprehensive Trauma Facility to Region V of the Texas Trauma Network is located over 240 miles away. No Texan should ever go without timely access to the highest level of care when facing a severe traumatic incident.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby supports legislative efforts to make funding available to strengthen the Texas Trauma Network.

Approved this 25th day of September 2018.

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