



# Resolution

- Whereas, Texas counties are responsible for the operation and management of many and various governmental programs as required or authorized by state law; and
- Whereas, some county government programs are fully or partially supported with funds disbursed by the State of Texas pursuant to the state appropriations process; and
- Whereas, the State of Texas, acting through the Texas Legislature or through a state agency or executive order, may enact laws or promulgate rules that have the effect of imposing mandatory financial obligations upon Texas counties; and
- Whereas, the State of Texas, through the Texas Legislature or through a state agency or executive order, mandates that counties implement certain governmental programs or perform certain duties and obligations including financial commitments by a county to expend county funds in connection therewith; and
- Whereas, during each regular session of the Texas Legislature, all state funds that support county programs are reviewed through the state appropriation process and by other state budgetary review systems; and
- Whereas, the aforementioned review process may result in a reduction, or cessation, of state financial support of county government programs causing an unforeseeable disruption and reduction of the county budget and operations; and
- Whereas, Texas counties cannot achieve reliable financial planning and the necessary bond ratings sufficient to support county-related obligations when the state mandates a new program that is not fully funded or under conditions where the state reduces or fully withdraws prior funding and disbursement for county government programs; and
- Whereas, the Williamson County Auditor's Office has calculated that county taxpayers were responsible for a net amount of just over \$87M in 2018 due to unfunded mandates from the State of Texas, as defined by the Texas Association of Counties; and

Whereas, based on an approximate county population of 600,000, this amount comes to almost \$150 for every man, woman, and child living in Williamson County; and

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court believes it is in the best interest of Texas counties and their taxpayers to support and favor the passage of HJR 30 and SJR 10, an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas that would expressly prohibit the imposition of a mandatory governmental program on Texas counties, whether by an act of the Texas Legislature or a state agency or by executive order, unless the State of Texas has fully funded and disbursed all necessary funds to enable Texas counties to operate said governmental program; and

Be it further resolved, that this Commissioners Court ask the Williamson County legislative delegation support and work for the passage of HJR 30 and SJR 10.

Signed on this date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Bill Gravell, County Judge

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Terry Cook, Commissioner Precinct 1

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Valerie Covey, Commissioner Precinct 3

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Cynthia Long, Commissioner Precinct 2

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Russ Boles, Commissioner Precinct 4