

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY for TBI and PTSD

Whereas, the ‘signature wounds’ of Iraq and Afghanistan are Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and are significant health issues for Texas Veterans returning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation New Dawn (OND)), and

Whereas, the effects of these conditions are usually long lasting and often life threatening (frequently suicide), and currently there are no definitive medical treatments for TBI and the treatments being provided today are only palliative drugs and/or counseling, and

Whereas, several, well documented, more curative therapies are available, including Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT), that offer additional, alternative, curative ways to restore affected Veterans lives and minds, and

Whereas, numerous studies have demonstrated that the untreated, lingering effects of these injuries adversely impact the returned Veterans’ lives, resulting frequently in destroyed families, drug and alcohol use, unemployment, mental illness, incarceration, and homelessness, and

Whereas, these results show up in society and communities as increased unemployment rates, public health care treatment costs, mental illness costs, alcohol and drug treatment costs, family breakups, and disrupted lives, and

Whereas, neither the VA, Military Medicine, nor Medicare will reimburse Medical Practitioners for their efforts to help these Veterans, and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that Williamson County strongly urges the Texas State Government to provide appropriate funding and focus to provide results orientated, evidence based, proven treatment for returning Texas Veterans that suffer the residual, after-effects of TBI and PTSD.

DAN A. GATTIS, County Judge

LISA BIRKMAN, Commissioner, Pct.1

CYTHIA LONG, Commissioner, Pct. 2

VALERIE COVEY, Commissioner, Pct 3

RON MORRISON, Commissioner, Pct 4

NANCY E. RISTER, County Clerk/
Williamson County, Texas