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## RESOLUTION AND ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CIVIL COURT ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SYSTEM

(PURSUANT TO TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 135.151 & Ch. 152)

WHEREAS, a county dispute resolution fund maintained in the county treasury as required by Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 135.151 may be used by a county only to establish and maintain an alternative dispute resolution system in accordance with Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Ch. 152; and

WHEREAS, an alternative dispute resolution system is "an informal forum in which mediation, conciliation, or arbitration is used to resolve disputes" as defined in Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 152.001; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County civil courts, including District and County Courts at Law, hold settlement week twice each year and promote alternative dispute resolution options sponsored by the county; and

WHEREAS, the county's Alternate Dispute Resolution Fund may continue to assess fees and retain such fees for maintenance of the county's established alternative dispute resolution system under Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Ch. 152 without remitting such fees to the State; and

WHEREAS, county commissioners by order may establish an alternative dispute resolution system as authorized by Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 152.002; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Commissioners Court desires to support and establish such an alternative dispute resolution system for the benefit and enhancement of the civil court system.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court does hereby establish an alternative dispute resolution system under Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Ch. 152 and specifically authorized by Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 135.151 and such fees collected by the District Courts and County Courts at Law for the Alternate Dispute Resolution Fund shall remain with the county and not remitted to the State for the maintenance of the county's alternative dispute resolution system.

ADOPTED BY THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT ON THIS THE DAY OF December, 2021.

Hon. Bill Gravell

Williamson County Judge,

As Presiding Officer