

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF POLK §



**Resolution of the Polk County Commissioners Court
Opposition to Effort to Prohibit County Lobbying**

WHEREAS, certain legislative bills filed in the 86th Texas Legislature would have prohibited the use of county funds to retain lobbyists to influence legislation, pay dues to associations that influence legislation, and to reimburse county officials for influencing legislation; and

WHEREAS, any bills which would prohibit the use of county funds would effectively silence the voice of local officials and prevent effective communication and representation of their citizens and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, county officials require the ability to express their positions and information through associations; and

WHEREAS, the inability to retain experienced representation before the federal and state legislative bodies and agencies would place our communities at a distinct disadvantage in efforts to obtain and retain federal and state projects and military bases; and

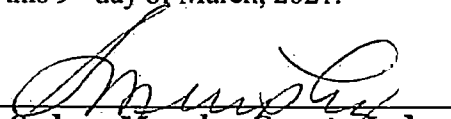
WHEREAS, smaller counties especially need to be able to combine their resources to effectively present their unique issues to state and federal government; and


WHEREAS, requiring elected officials to personally expend personal resources to present the views of their citizens would impose an extreme hardship on these public servants; and

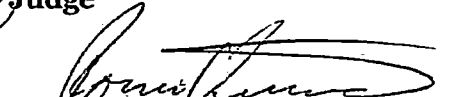
WHEREAS, such prohibition would stifle the basic tenets of democracy and open government;

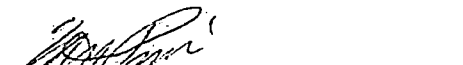
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Commissioners Court does hereby express its opposition to any legislation that attempts to silence the combined voices of the county officials of this state and does hereby express appreciation for the defeat of the 86th Texas Legislature's Senate Bill 29.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2021.



Sydney Murphy, County Judge

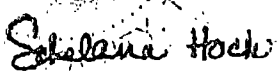

Guylene Robertson, Precinct 1


Ronnie Vincent, Precinct 2


Milt Purvis, Precinct 3




Tommy Overstreet, Precinct 4

Attest: 
(seal) Schelana Hock, County Clerk

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF POLK

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**Resolution of the Polk County Commissioners Court
Opposition to Effort to Reduce the Number of Appellate Courts**

WHEREAS, the appellate process is a systemic way to ensure that the judiciary remains independent and impartial; and

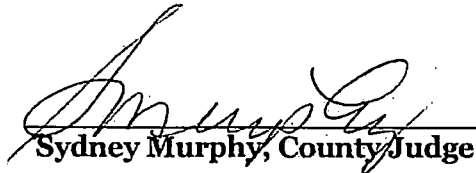
WHEREAS, litigants who are dissatisfied with the outcome at the trial court level can take their case to the appellate level where judges review the record for possible errors; and

WHEREAS, proposed Senate Bill 11 involves reducing the number of Civil Appellate Courts from 14 to 6 or 7, which would limit appellate courts to those in urban areas, closing the Courts of Appeal in Beaumont, Tyler and Texarkana; and


WHEREAS, elections of Appeal Court Judges would end up being dominated by large urban centers without representation from rural areas;

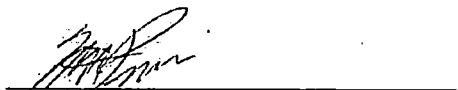
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Commissioners Court does hereby express their opposition to any legislation that would place undue hardships upon and reduce the voices of Rural Texans.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2021.

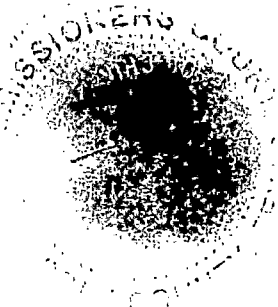

Sydney Murphy, County Judge

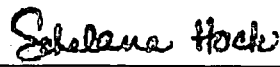

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Tommy Overstreet, Precinct 4



Attest: 
(seal) Schelana Hock, County Clerk

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**Resolution of the Polk County Commissioners Court
Support of County Road Grant Fund**

WHEREAS, constitutional amendments have been approved by the voters to increase dedicated funding for public roadways; and

WHEREAS, these constitutional amendments provide additional funding to be used only for constructing, maintaining, and acquiring right of way for public roadways other than toll roads; and

WHEREAS, these constitutional amendments provide needed support for public highways without increasing taxes; and

WHEREAS, the county road system is eligible for assistance from this funding; and

WHEREAS, county roads are being devastated by overweight trucks to enhance the production of oil and gas; and

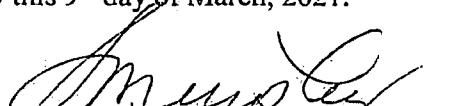
WHEREAS, the oil and gas severance tax should be equitably shared with counties to repair this damage; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Stabilization (Rainy Day) Fund has reached record levels through deposits from the oil and gas severance tax; and

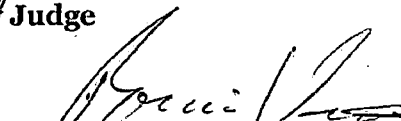
WHEREAS, the appropriations from this fund can be utilized to fund the repair and rehabilitation of county roads;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Commissioners Court does hereby express appreciation for the additional funding appropriated to support the county road grant program and request expedited distribution of the \$250 million appropriated in the 86th Texas Legislature's S.B. 500 and H.B. 1.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2021.

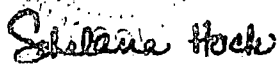

Sydney Murphy, County Judge


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Attest: 
(seal) Schelana Hock, County Clerk

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**Resolution of the Polk County Commissioners Court
Rural Public Transit**

WHEREAS, 37 Rural Transit Districts serve all the counties throughout Texas; and

WHEREAS, Rural Transit Districts provide access to needed goods and services, jobs, and medical services throughout the rural counties of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Rural Transit Districts traveled 36,056,467 miles and provided 4,624,135 one-way trips to the citizens of rural Texas in 2018; and

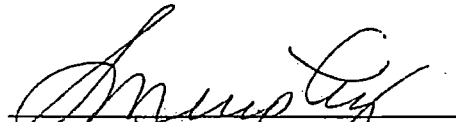
WHEREAS, on average, bus fleets for Rural Transit Districts are at 130 percent of their established lifecycle; and

WHEREAS, funding opportunities for large federal and state grants have historically left qualified rural projects underfunded; and

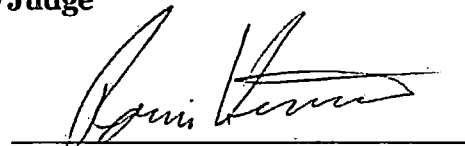
WHEREAS, without increased funding, in order to meet increasing service demands and costs in rural areas, services to those most in need in rural Texas will suffer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Commissioners Court expresses its support for a meaningful increase in funding for Rural Transit Districts.

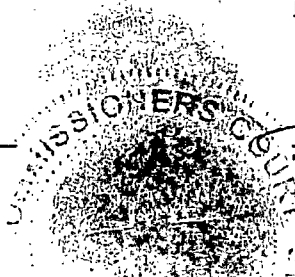
APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of March, 2021.


Sydney Murphy, County Judge


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Attest: 
(seal) Schelana Hock, County Clerk