

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF POLK

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RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL OR STATE FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT ENHANCE MENTAL HEALTHCARE OPTIONS FOR UNINSURED TEXANS AND EXPANDED ACCESS TO CARE FOR COUNTY RESIDENTS.

WHEREAS, in December 2011, the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved a five-year healthcare funding program through the §1115 waiver and extended it for an additional five-year period in December 2017; and

WHEREAS, that approved program included the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program that used regional partnerships to enhance mental healthcare options for uninsured Texans and expand access to care for County residents; and

WHEREAS, Polk County benefited immensely from the DSRIP program, through partnerships between Burke, our local hospitals, schools and law enforcement, etc. utilizing millions of dollars in federal funds since the program's inception. These funds were used to meet the health care needs of our County residents, provide timely services, and reach our most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2021, CMS approved a ten-year, \$100 billion, §1115 waiver extension that transitioned the DSRIP program into a new Public Health Provider charity care pool and directed payment programs for mental health resources; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2021, the CMS rescinded the §1115 waiver leaving the previous waiver in effect until its expiration on September 30, 2022, and the DSRIP program expiration on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, if the DSRIP program is not extended to September 30, 2022 or the DSRIP transition program included in the now rescinded §1115 waiver approved, Burke will lose \$6,000,000 of dollars mental health support funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Commissioners Court encourages the Department of Health and Human Services and CMS to approve an extension of the DSRIP program to at least September 30, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should an extension not be granted, the Polk County Commissioners Court requests the Texas Legislature make available contingency funds to replace those lost by the expiration of the DSRIP program. This will ensure uninterrupted and much-needed healthcare and mental health funding for our County residents.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of May, 2021.

Sydney Murphy
Sydney Murphy, County Judge

Gylené Robertson
Gylené Robertson, Precinct 1

Ronnie Vincent
Ronnie Vincent, Precinct 2

Milt Purvis
Milt Purvis, Precinct 3

Tommy Overstreet
Tommy Overstreet, Precinct 4

Attest: Schelana Hock
(seal) Schelana Hock, County Clerk

