



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HJR 56 BY SOLOMONS

STATE OF TEXAS §
§
COUNTY OF HAYS §

WHEREAS, the rising costs of local government are driven by two main factors: growth in demand as the population grows and growth in required services or levels of service mandated by the state; and

WHEREAS, many in state government rightly oppose unfunded federal mandates on the states, yet every legislative session at least a few new unfunded mandates on local governments are passed; and

WHEREAS, the time delay between the legislature mandating a certain level of services and the setting of local budgets to provide those services, Hays County residents often do not know whom to hold accountable for the budget decisions that must be made to accommodate unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, HJR 56 provides cities, counties, and community colleges with protection against unfunded mandates by providing that a mandate on local government that requires the spending of additional local funds has no effect unless the state provides funding or reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, HJR 56 is modeled on the same practice the legislature has followed for many years in establishing new mandates on state agencies – if a proposed mandate increases costs, a legislator must have funds included in the appropriations act or identify a new funding source to pay for the new mandate; and

WHEREAS, HJR 56 is a budgetary reform measure that provides an incentive for the legislature to tie funding to mandates passed on to local governments; and

WHEREAS HJR 56 will improve accountability to taxpayers and voters and represents common sense reform that both statewide and local constituents are demanding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners Court of Hays County, that the state legislature should pass HJR 56 as filed by Representative Solomons to provide relief from unfunded mandates for local governments.

ADOPTED THIS THE 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011

Bert Cobb
Hays County Judge

Debbie Gonzales Angalsbe
Commissioner, Pct. 1
Will Conley
Commissioner, Pct. 3
Mark Jones
Commissioner, Pct. 2
Ray Whisenant
Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST:

Liz Q. Gonzalez
Hays County Clerk

