

THE STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF EL PASO)

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ARIZONA SENATE BILL 1070

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, El Paso County is a culturally and ethnically diverse community which respects the rights of every individual present within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the topics of immigration reform, border security, and state and federal cooperation on immigration concerns are of great importance to state and local government entities; and

WHEREAS, border security is critical to the safety, quality of life, and economic prosperity of the United States-Mexico border region; and,

WHEREAS, enactment and enforcement of immigration laws is neither a state nor local responsibility and state and local agencies do not have the training or expertise to enforce immigration laws; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of state and local law enforcement should be to serve and protect the residents of the county and this state from criminal activity and to provide recourse to the victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the federal government to adopt and enforce fair and humane immigration laws which insure the preservation of individual civil rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Legislature and Governor Jan Brewer passed and signed Senate Bill 1070 (Support Our Law Enforcement and Safe Neighborhoods Act), criminalizing the mere presence of undocumented immigrants and requiring all local law enforcement to investigate a person's immigration status where there is reasonable suspicion that the person is in the Country unlawfully, regardless of whether that person is suspected of a crime; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1070 fundamentally violates constitutional rights and human rights guaranteed by the United States and Texas Constitutions by encouraging racial profiling; and,

WHEREAS, the enforcement of Senate Bill 1070 will break the trust of the immigrant community with their local police and sheriff's departments by creating

a climate of fear and the persecution of immigrants that will lead to the non-reporting of crimes and an increase in criminal activity against immigrant victims; and,

WHEREAS, legislation such as Senate Bill 1070 will create an additional financial burden on state and local law enforcement entities and distract them from their mission to serve and protect local communities; and

WHEREAS, the County of El Paso has been, and remains, committed to the protection of civil rights, liberties, and security for all peoples as expressed in the United States and Texas Constitutions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT THAT:

1. The County of El Paso publically denounces the enactment of the anti-immigrant Senate Bill 1070 and expresses its abhorrence to the officials of the State of Arizona who supported its enactment and urges its immediate repeal; and

2. The County of El Paso will oppose any attempts in the Texas Legislature to shape immigration policies or to create state laws and regulations that foster racial profiling or discrimination based on race, ethnicity or national origin and attempt to enact immigration laws that should be within the jurisdiction of the federal government; and

3. The County of El Paso will limit any business dealings with the State of Arizona and will not expend public funds on non-essential travel to Arizona until Senate Bill 1070 is repealed; and

4. The County of El Paso encourages all residents of the county to boycott business dealings with business entities headquartered in Arizona and travel to the State of Arizona until Senate Bill 1070 is repealed; and

5. The County of El Paso encourages all organizations which have booked conventions, exhibitions, and business meetings in Arizona to cancel those visits to Arizona to demonstrate widespread opposition to Senate Bill 1070 and to instead schedule their events in the welcoming ambience and open diversity of the El Paso region until Senate Bill 1070 is repealed.

**ADOPTED BY ORDER OF THE EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COURT ON THE 3rd DAY OF MAY, 2010:**

Honorable Anna Perez
Commissioner, Precinct #1

Honorable Veronica Escobar
Commissioner, Precinct #2

Honorable Willie Gandara
Commissioner, Precinct #3

Honorable Daniel R. Haggerty
Commissioner, Precinct #4

Honorable Anthony Cobos
County Judge