



2008 Texas LULAC Resolutions

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Dissemination of Healthcare Information

WHEREAS, The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's oldest and largest Hispanic civil rights and educational organization; and

WHEREAS, the lack of healthcare information in the community is deteriorating the well being of our people; and

WHEREAS, the demand for that type of information is a growing necessity; and

WHEREAS, the lives of our people are being affected on drastic levels, and the outreach for the information has been demanded by the many; and

WHEREAS, this organization has the capability and reliability of taking on such actions,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, LULAC designate the Health Commission to take on this challenge and make it a positive reality in the needs of peoples' lives and by that providing a pamphlet with the essential information that is imperative for the community to have, whether it be on health risks, how to prevent these types of risks, and how people could live a better and healthier lifestyle. LULAC should push the legislature to pass this need for as much as the people need the executive board; the executive board needs the people.

Support for HPV Shots Funding

WHEREAS, The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the oldest and longest Hispanic civil rights and education organization; and

WHEREAS, the experts made it a point that the HPV shot is a measure that can not be ignored and underestimated; and

WHEREAS, there has been a great controversy on the level of danger and the emphasis on the effects of the virus and to what measure the female population should take action; and

WHEREAS, the women that are truly at risk do not have the financial backing to cover the high costs of the 3 shots; and

WHEREAS, the 3 shots range from \$150-200 each;

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, LULAC should uphold its humanitarian standards and aid the female population by demanding financial support from the legislature for the HPV shot.

Naming of the Three Rivers Post Office in Honor of Felix Longoria

WHEREAS, the city of Three Rivers, TX is guilty of a grievous past injustice when it denied World War II veteran Felix Longoria burial in the city cemetery; and

WHEREAS, Felix Longoria bravely and courageously served his country in time of need on the battlefield in the Filipino theatre of war; and

WHEREAS, Felix Longoria is an American citizen who made the ultimate sacrifice to his country according him the claim of hero; and

WHEREAS, then junior Senator Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas nominated Mr. Longoria to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, Felix Longoria was given a full military heroes burial at Arlington National Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, LULAC and the American G J. Forum believe that the city of Three Rivers should right this injustice; and

WHEREAS, the city of Three Rivers rejected the proposal to name the city's post office in honor of Mr. Longoria;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that both LULAC and the American G.I. Forum strongly calls for the city of Three Rivers and the United State's postal service to honor the memory of a true American hero by naming the Three Rivers post office in honor of Felix Longoria.

Lobbying and Advocating for the Dream Act Bill

WHEREAS, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) the is the largest and oldest Hispanic Organization in the United States and LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health and civil rights of Hispanic Americans; and

WHEREAS, this organization expanding network is the perfect venue to address the injustice and discrimination undocumented students are forced to endure; and

WHEREAS, the Library of Congress at thomas.loc.gov cited the Dream Act as being a bipartisan federal legislation for which acronym stands for Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors; and

WHEREAS, Majority Senate Whip (D-IL) Dick Durbin Introduced legislation known as the DREAM Act to enable young people who were brought to the United States as children and have grown up here to apply for legal status and apply for college on the same terms as other students, (durbin.senate.gov); and

WHEREAS, the Dream will benefit approximately 65,000 students yearly and in order to qualify, they must meet the following criteria:

1. Entered the U.S at the age of 15 or younger
2. Graduated from High School or receive their G.E.D
3. Enrolled in at least a 2 year college or enlist in the Armed Forces
4. Be of good moral character

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that each member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) promote the principles it was declared to uphold by taking an active role in lobbying and advocating for the Dream Act bill by:

1. Urging local LULAC members to sign petitions write letters and make phone calls to their respective Federal Representatives and Senators encouraging them to support the Dream Act.
2. Dedicating time in our respected District meetings to further organize and strategize on ways to promote our support for the Dream Act.
3. While assembled in convention, the Executive Board and the Legislative Research Committee consider opportunities to lobby at a Federal level.

Be it further resolved, that the responsibility of these actions shall rest on the each LULAC member, the District committee, Council Presidents and Directors from across the state and led by the State Director.

Urge the US Congress to Pass the Military Readiness Enhancement Act

WHEREAS, Americans of all races, colors, national origins, and sexual orientations have proudly served in the United States Armed Forces since the birth of our nation; and

WHEREAS, more than one million veterans alive today are gay, lesbian or bisexual, and more than 65,000 current service members are gay, lesbian or bisexual; and

WHEREAS, those gay, lesbian and bisexual veterans and current service members have distinguished themselves with their honorable service, including Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Eric Alva, the first American wounded in the invasion of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, barracks modernization programs begun more than a decade ago have greatly enhanced the personal privacy of all service members; and

WHEREAS, integrity is the cornerstone to building character and becoming an effective leader in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, lying about one's sexual orientation does nothing to enhance the capabilities of the Armed Forces;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, by North Texas LULAC District 3, that we urge our elected representatives in the US Congress to repeal the law commonly referred to as Don't ask, Don't tell to allow gay, lesbian and bisexual Americans to serve openly and honestly in the US Armed Forces by passing the Military Readiness Enhancement Act.

State Employee Health Care Systems & Pension Plans

WHEREAS, the state employee health and pension plan are two of the few components of the state employee benefits package that remains competitive with the private sector; and

WHEREAS, "consumer based" or defined contribution health plans reduce costs for employers by increasing costs and reducing benefits for employees and as reported by the federal General Accounting Office and a Harvard Medical School study, such plans are particularly unfair to women and families with children; and

WHEREAS, defined contribution pension plans are essentially variations on 401-K type plans which make employees' retirement security dependent on fluctuating financial markets and investment judgments by individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has already reduced retirement benefits for university employees and classroom teachers; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature allowed the university employees' and state agency employees' pension funds to fall into unfunded liabilities by reducing the state contributions to the plans and keeping it at the constitutional minimum for over a decade;

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be it resolved that Texas LULAC urges the Texas Legislature to defeat any proposals to introduce defined contribution programs into the state employee and university employee health care systems or pension plan; and to defeat any proposals to reduce or restrict benefits to retirees or active employees;

Let it be further resolved that the Texas legislature fully fund employee health care and pension plans to allow restoration of full benefits and cost-of-living adjustments for retirees.

Abolish T. Don Hutto Detention Center

WHEREAS, LULAC promotes and defends universal standards of human rights including the rights and humane treatment of undocumented children and their mothers; and

WHEREAS, The lengthy detention of undocumented children, pregnant women and nursing mothers at a private facility called the T. Don Hutto Detention Center in Tyler, Texas has reportedly traumatized numerous undocumented children and their parents; and

WHEREAS, this private prison facility called T. Don Hutto Detention Center is reportedly serving as the model for the further expansion for the incarceration of thousands of undocumented families throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, 200 to 300 families a day are currently being detained for periods of 12 months or longer at the T. Don Hutto Detention Center; and

WHEREAS, the corporate owner of the T. Don Hutto Detention Center which was formerly a medium security prison, charges the United States Government \$200 per day per person detained; and

WHEREAS, there are less restrictive alternatives for monitoring the whereabouts of undocumented children and their parents while they await pending immigration hearings;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolve that; LULAC Councils, District, State and National Administrations will do everything in their power to close the T. Don Hutto Detention Center immediately and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it further resolved that LULAC Councils, District State and National Administrations support petition drives, peaceful public demonstrations, town hall meetings that call for the immediate closure of the T. Don Hutto Detention Facility; and petition members of the United States Congress to review and reform immigrations laws and regulations to include for a path to citizenship and cease the incarceration of innocent children and parents.

Support for Senator Hinchey's Sgt. Carmelo Rodriguez Bill

WHEREAS, LULAC has always been a strong advocate and supporter for all members of the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, numerous Hispanics have proudly served their country and many have received the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, LULAC promotes, defends and seeks to reverse an injustice that prevents the service men/women and their families from holding the military accountable for negligent health care; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Maurice Hinchey's (Democratic-NY) introduced a Bill, the Sgt. Carmelo Rodriguez Bill that would enable the Rodriguez family and others (soldiers) to hold the Military accountable for Negligent Medical Care; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Carmelo Rodriguez, a Marine who served in Iraq died at the age of 29 after serving his country from 1997 to 2005; and

WHEREAS, Hinchey's Bill (Sgt. Carmelo Rodriguez) would legislatively reverse the US Supreme Court's 1950 decision *Feres vs. United States* in which the Court denied military members and their families of the right to sue the military for negligent medical care given to them during their time of service; and

WHEREAS, LULAC should seek other Congressman and Senators as Co-Sponsors for passing this Legislation,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Texas LULAC Organization support the Senator Hinchey's "Sgt. Carmelo Rodriguez Bill" medical accountability Act of 2008 and join in Demanding this Medical Compensation for our Military members and will not accept a shameful denial of their rights that those service members served and died for.

Amend the Federal Arbitration Act

WHEREAS, The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is a national civil rights organization concerned with the welfare and human rights of all peoples, particularly those of Latino heritage; and

WHEREAS, LULAC exercises leadership locally through membership councils, Districts, State and National levels concerning affordable housing, new home construction and related warranties, mortgage lending, the quality of life of families and community stability; and

WHEREAS, In order to assure all Americans their Constitutional Right of access to the courts LULAC supports a resolution to amend the Federal Arbitration Act to make pre-dispute agreements to arbitrate employment, consumer, or civil rights disputes unenforceable,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that LULAC in order to protect consumers and their constitutional rights supports and recommends the amendment of the Federal Arbitration Act, to prohibit Mandatory Binding Arbitration Agreements containing a pre-dispute agreement for the purchase of any consumer goods and services, employment agreement or any agreement that would deny Americans any constitutional right especially civil rights.

Be it further resolved, that LULAC support the Arbitration Fairness Act 2007 introduced by U.S. Senator Russ Feingold (S.R. 1782) and U.S. Representative Hank Johnson (H.R.3010).

Support for a Full Continuum Care System for all Texans

WHEREAS, Texas residents with developmental disabilities need and deserve top quality services; and

WHEREAS, Texas ranks near the bottom among the states in funding for services to persons with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a full continuum of services is essential to meet the needs of all Texans with developmental disabilities,

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be resolved that Texas LULAC urges the Texas Legislature to adopt policies and approve funding to support a full continuum of care systems for all Texans who need services a system that is fully funded and staffed based on service needs; that provides top quality care in the least restrictive setting appropriate for each person; that provides a continuum of care that includes a state school option for individuals needing residential care with around-the-clock intensive medical, behavioral, and/or developmental care; smaller residential facilities with moderate levels of care; a variety of group living arrangements with varying levels of on-site assistance; a variety of independent and semi-independent living arrangements' a full range of in-home services; and a full range of out patient, clinical, vocational; and community services.

Let it be further resolved that Texas LULAC urges the Texas Legislature to adopt a policy that guarantees choice including the choice for a state school placement; and fully inform individuals needing services, parents, other family members, and/or guardians of all options; that is operated by the state with state employees so that it is fully integrated and flexible and accountable to lawmakers and the public and that provides the good compensation, fair working conditions and reasonable job security that will allow it to attract, train and retain qualified and dedicated employees.

Support for Establishing a Home Lemon Law

WHEREAS, The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is a national civil rights organization concerned with the welfare and human rights of all peoples, particularly those of Latino heritage; and

WHEREAS, LULAC exercises leadership locally through membership councils, Districts, State and National levels concerning affordable housing, new home construction and related warranties, mortgage lending, the quality of life of families and community stability; and

WHEREAS, In order to protect consumers and families and the right to expect that a new well built home is safe for occupancy LULAC Supports a Home Lemon Law modeled after the Car Lemon Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that LULAC in order to protect consumers when purchasing a new home has the same rights afforded new car buyers and supports passage of a Home Lemon Law.

Support for a Movie about the War Exploits of Sgt. Jose M. Lopez

WHEREAS, it is a known fact and a matter of pride, that through acts of bravery and valor, throughout the wars that the United States has been involved in, that Mexican- American servicemen have won more Congressional Medals of Honor than any other resident minority in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the younger Mexican- American generation know and become aware of the participation and sacrifice that the Mexican- American servicemen have made in protecting the freedoms, that we have enjoyed and continue to enjoy, from day to day; and

WHEREAS, the family of Sgt. Jose M. Lopez intends to commence a unified effort to make a movie about the World War II exploits of Sgt. Jose M. Lopez, during the Battle of the Bulge on December 17, 1944; while protecting the withdrawal of his company, where Sgt. Lopez, supporting with his body his 50-caliber heavy machine gun, killed more than 100 of the enemy. For his brave act of bravery, above and beyond the call of duty, Sgt. Lopez was awarded the highest decoration that the United States awards to its heroes — the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, the family of Sgt. Jose M. Lopez, a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, will commence a sincere unified effort to secure and/or raise the necessary funding to make a movie about Sgt. Lopez's exploits in World War II, while serving the 2nd Infantry Division of the United States Army,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the League of United Latin American Citizens go on record as supporting unified fund raising efforts of the family of Sgt. Jose M. Lopez's, who died last year at the age of 95 years of age; and be it,

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution, approved by the delegates to the 2008 LULAC State Convention held at Odessa, Texas, be made available to the family of Sgt. Jose M. Lopez, a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Support for Significant Pay Increases for State Employees

WHEREAS, average state employee salaries have fallen behind by at least 20% since 1988 relative to the cost of living; and

WHEREAS, poor compensation is a major factor in high employee turnover that reduces the effectiveness of state agencies and universities and costs millions of dollars every year to additional training costs; and

WHEREAS, university employees were excluded from even the small raises approved by the Legislature in 2005 and 2007;

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be resolved that Texas LULAC urges the Texas Legislature to approve significant pay increases for state employees in 2009 providing that the pay raise is a "flat amount" across-the-board increase to assure that employees at the bottom of the pay scale get a raise that makes a difference and that university employees are included and that each university employee get the raise adopted by the Legislature.

Investigation of Immigrant Female Detainee Alleged Sexual Assault

WHEREAS, GEO Group's South Texas Detention Center in Pearsall Texas has reports of guards that have allegedly sexually assaulted female immigrant detainees at the Pearsall prison facility; and

WHEREAS, the same Pearsall detention center was the subject of a lawsuit last September alleging that a mentally disabled prisoner has denied medical care and generally mistreated; and

WHEREAS, these abuses must be investigated and the violations of the human and civil rights against the immigrant females who were sexually assaulted by the security guard must be brought to justice to any extent of the law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that LULAC demands an investigation of prisons for profit, and calls for congressional hearings and letters to be sent by our legal attorneys demanding justice and that the security guards be held accountable for the alleged sexual assault at the GEO Group's South Texas Pearsall female immigrant detainee prison.

LULAC Resolution—Voting System

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens is this nation's oldest and largest Latino organization, founded in Corpus Christi, Texas on February 24, 1929; and

WHEREAS, democracy and freedom of speech are cherished LULAC principals; and

WHEREAS, today there is no tested or approved ballot system should one be required at a national election as allowed for under the LULAC constitution,

- This Resolution calls for a creation of a Ballot System Committee at the first LULAC National Board meeting following the 2008 National Convention.
- The purpose of said committee is to research and select a ballot system that is efficient, easy to use, provides a confidential voting mechanism for eligible delegates while ensuring a secure, accurate and tamperproof tally of all votes.
- Committee is then to make the selected system available for demonstration only at the 2009 National Convention for the purposes of receiving membership feedback.
- Upon the review of membership feedback, the committee is to make it's final ballot system selection.
- The LULAC National Office is then to make the ballot system available at all subsequent National Elections should it be required by the National Assembly.

Abandoning Plans to Continue the Failed Privatization/Call Center Experiment

WHEREAS, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission continues to make plans to privatize human services eligibility services in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission has not fully utilized authority granted by the Texas Legislature to hire staff and take other steps to restore the eligibility system based on local officers; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Health and Human services Commission continues to add new cases and fake other steps to commit Texas to its new TIERS computer system despite the fact that the Texas State Auditor has determined that the system is not adequate; and

WHEREAS, the continuing degradation of the human service eligibility system as indicated by worsening performance as measured by federally mandated indicators, has created a worsening crisis that can be described as a "melt-down" of the system; and

WHEREAS, Texas faces the prospect of loss of federal funding, federal penalties and other costly problems if steps are not taken to rebuild the system; and

WHEREAS, continuing efforts to privatize components of our states' child and adult protective services programs constitute a threat to the integrity of services to abused and neglected children and elders; and

WHEREAS, the "privatized" Access HR human resources system is a failure that has crippled management functions in the five human services agencies while costing millions of dollars paid to the contractor;

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be resolved that Texas LULAC urges the Governor, the Texas Legislature and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to immediately abandon plans to continue the failed privatization/call center experiment; to suspend all input or conversion of cases into TIERS until the future of the system has been decided and, if it is decided to keep TIERS, until the system is fully functional; to hire additional staff and upgrade staff training resources to fully staff all HHSC field offices; to cancel all plans to privatize any part of child protective services or adult services and to cancel the access HR contract with Convergys Inc. and rebuild in-house human resources functions.

LULAC Resolution—Leadership Development

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens is this nation's oldest and largest Latino organization, founded in Corpus Christi, Texas on February 24, 1929; and

WHEREAS, LULAC is committed to the process of continuous improvement; and

WHEREAS, LULAC realizes the need to become more efficient and effective if we are to meet our stated objectives; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with generally accepted policies and practices of both for profit and not for profit organizations,

- This Resolution calls for a creation of a National Leadership and Membership Training Program by the LULAC National Office.
- Membership training is to include but is not limited to LULAC history, programs, civil rights, issue advocacy and parliamentary procedure.
- Leadership training is to include but is not limited to membership development, legal do's and don'ts, LULAC constitutional convention procedure, fundraising and program delivery.
- Said training with classes and reference materials are to be made available within six months following the 2008 LULAC National Convention.
- Upon completion of the creation of the classes and materials, a five (5) month pilot implementation of the training program is to be implemented in selected states.
- An analysis of the program is then to be conducted and reported on at the 2009 National Convention with recommendations for any final modifications and a schedule for implementation nationwide.

LULAC Resolution Congratulating Dr. David W. Watts

WHEREAS, it is a known fact that at The University of The Permian Basin, Dr. David W. Watts has changed the face of education in college level education; through his incentive innovative educational cost approach; through The University of The Permian Basin's college education cost plan of matching, penny for penny, a prospective college funds of a student, who, decides to attend The University of the Permian Basin; and

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens is greatly concern in promoting the availability of college level education; it is with respect and admiration that LULAC recognizes and acknowledges the merits of the innovative, penny for penny, education cost approach instituted at The University of The Permian Basin by Dr. Watts; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that other college level educational institutions become aware of Dr. David W. Watts' unique educational approach plan for payment of college education; and

WHEREAS, it is equally important that prospective college students from all over the State of Texas, who, are contemplate continuing their education beyond the high school level become aware of Dr, Watts' sincere effort of changing the face of education through his, penny for penny, college payment plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the League of the United Latin American Citizens go on record as endorsing and recommending that prospective high school college students, throughout the State of Texas, give serious consideration of attending The University of The Permian Basin; and

Be it further resolved that a copy of this LULAC Resolution be presented to Dr. David W. Watts, President of The University of The Permian Basin.

Racial Profiling Resolution

WHEREAS, The League of United Latin American Citizens is the oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization founded in Corpus Christi, Texas on February 24, 1929; and

WHEREAS, LULAC promotes justice and equality for all people; and

WHEREAS, The League of United Latin American Citizens is committed to civil rights; and

WHEREAS, Four Latino students were recently accused of theft at a sunglass store by an employee of said business; and

WHEREAS, All four students were unfairly identified as thieves, arrested and handcuffed by North Park Security Officers and subjected to public humiliation; and

WHEREAS, LULAC strongly believes that employees of the Sun Glass Store and North Park Security Officers unfairly and unjustly and without probable cause or evidence arrested and detained these students strictly because of their national origin/race in effect subjecting them to "Racial Profiling" in a public place. These students where they were only "window shopping" and not stealing any products as imagined by store employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that LULAC strongly protests this highly illegal behavior of employees and security police by filing appropriate complaints with the District Attorney's Office of Dallas County for this unlawful arrest and detention and file complaints with the Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Support for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

WHEREAS, even our esteemed President Ronald Reagan abhorred fences as barriers to the encouragement of friendship and good neighbor policies and helped tear down the wall between Eastern and Western Europe; and

WHEREAS, the policy of the present administration of our country is misdirecting fear, distrust and xenophobia towards our relatives and traditional good neighbors in Mexico, and the Department of Homeland Security is focusing its attention on the border between Mexico and the United States, rather than toward the real sources of terrorist threats to our country; and

WHEREAS, our country is not responding to immigration with a just and rational policy that opens a better future for law-abiding, hardworking people to knock on America's "Golden Door" of opportunity;

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be resolved that LULAC reaffirm its Legislative Platform Policies of 2001: LULAC urges a strengthening of our partnerships with Latin American countries, in particular, a collaboration between the Mexican government and the government of the United States; LULAC opposes any policy or legislation threatening the rights of legal immigrants; LULAC opposes any policies or legislation that denies legal residents and naturalized citizens the same rights and benefits due to native-born citizens; LULAC supports comprehensive immigration reform; LULAC urges Congress to reject attempts to curb legal immigration or create a moratorium on legal immigration; LULAC opposes the mistreatment of immigrants in the United States regardless of their status; and

Let it be further resolved that LULAC opposes the senseless building of a wall on the border between the United States and Mexico and the unwarranted militarization of the border as the major threats to our homeland security are not coming from Mexico and there be a halt on the building of the wall and instead embrace our common future.

Texas Appraisal Districts

WHEREAS, all Texas Appraisal District is engaging in an orchestrated campaign to discriminate against affordable housing by revoking and denying proper affordable housing property tax exemptions previously granted to community housing development organizations; and

|WHEREAS, Chief Appraisers in Texas have endeavored to accomplish this attack on affordable housing by utilizing unequal, arbitrary, capricious, and constantly changing standards for exemptions in contravention of Texas law, and in violation of the rights of Hispanic residents in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Texas is alone in its effort to actively deny such previously granted and recognized exemptions to affordable housing organizations, and is acting directly contrary to the appraisal districts in other metropolitan areas in Texas; and

WHREAS, the San Antonio and Bexar County area has one of the largest concentrations of Hispanic residents of any metropolitan area in the United States, and such discrimination has the potential to negatively affect the Hispanic community in a disproportionate way; and

WHEREAS, the loss of such exemptions can have disastrous and irreversible negative effects on the availability of quality affordable housing to Hispanic people in Texas;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) publicly condemn the Appraisal Districts in Texas and the actions of its Chief Appraiser in revoking and denying property tax exemption to affordable housing organizations in contravention of Texas law, and in deprivation of the rights of Hispanics throughout Texas, and demand his respect for and return to adherence of the rule of law of affordable housing property tax exemptions as previously recognized in Bexar County, and as currently recognized throughout the State of Texas.

Team Up with Dr. Sherwin Schwartz for Diabetes Research

WHEREAS, LULAC advocates for the health and well being of Latinos throughout our country; and

WHEREAS, obesity is a major cause of diabetes, heart disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, research recently reported by the New York Times, Mexican American boys are more likely to have a higher body mass index compared to non-Mexican American boys; and

WHEREAS, Mexican American girls have a 20 percent chance to be obese; and

WHEREAS, this rise of obesity can be prevented and is not inevitable; and

WHEREAS, teenager Andrew Schwartz son of a prominent physician Sherwin Schwartz has been actively researching this very problematic situation affecting Latinos and is reaching out to our LULAC Council 4383; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sherwin Schwartz has established one of the largest facilities for Diabetes Research in the country; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Schwartz will team up with LULAC to address this epidemic through an all out active program directly geared to make a significant and positive difference for Latinos THEREFORE let it be Resolved that LULAC welcomes and embraces the passionate efforts of Andrew Schwartz, which have a great promise to bring about a better life for our Latino youth;

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be further that LULAC will engage in research and actions that make a difference along with Andrew Schwartz that are definitely in the best interest of our Latino population with emphasis on the youth.

Justice, Equality & Business Development

WHEREAS, The Muslim community has been the subject of "selective law enforcement" since September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Latinos are too familiar with "racial profiling" and "selective law enforcement"; and

WHEREAS, The Holy Land Foundation in North Texas has specifically been targeted for alleged criminal activities and has been persecuted for activities protected by the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, LULAC is a firm believer in the constitutional rights of all persons regardless of race, color or national origin;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that: LULAC District III strongly supports the due process rights of the Holy Land Foundation and the right to conduct humanitarian and educational activities in the USA and abroad.

Support for El Paso, South Texas Landowner

WHEREAS, the waiver of environmental laws to speed construction of a 670-mile border security fence by the Homeland Security Agency is viewed as violations of constitutional law by a very significant number of citizens, including legal scholars, land owners affected by the waivers and the general public; and

WHEREAS, it is contended that the Secretary of Homeland Security has waived more than 30 laws via the authority granted him by the Real ID Act of 2005 to meet the Bush Administration's goal to finish the half-completed fence by year's end; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid is working with more than 400 South Texas landowners whose property faces condemnation for the fence and the Legal Aid argues that Homeland Security did not properly consult with property owners before filing condemnation lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a lawsuit filed by the cit of El Paso against Homeland security - and joined by a broad coalition of Texas-based environmental groups - is in federal court in El Paso; and

WHEREAS, on May 16, the Texas Border Coalition, comprised of elected officials and business leaders, filed a class-action lawsuit against Homeland Security and the Border Patrol to halt construction of the fence claiming that Homeland Security violated due process and constitutional equal protection guarantees by failing to negotiate in good faith with border landowners; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, the University of Texas at Brownsville asked the federal court for relief after Homeland Security said it planned to seize about two acres of university land for fence construction and the land on which the fence would be built would effectively slice off up to 180 acres of university property from the rest of the campus; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court on June 23rd gave the Bush administration a victory when it declined to step into the controversy over the waiver leaving the Congress of the United States and lower courts to address the issue; and

WHEREAS, U. S. Representative Raul Grijalva, Democrat from Arizona has authored a bill that would repeal the portion of the Real ID Act that provides the waiver authority; and

WHEREAS, 49 members of Congress have signed on to the bill;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that LULAC supports the Grijalva bill and will ask Congress to vote affirmatively to pass the bill; and

Be it further resolved that LULAC supports the Texas Border Coalition's El Paso lawsuit and the Rio Grande Legal Aid efforts on behalf of the more than 400 south Texas landowner; and

Finally, be it resolved that LULAC supports the University of Texas at Brownsville federal court request. LULAC's support of this resolution should be handled by a strategy developed by the LULAC Executive Director with the assistance of LULAC's Legal Counsel and the LULAC Civil Rights Commission.