



EL PASO COUNTY
STATE OF TEXAS

RESOLUTION



***WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has created havoc in our lives, disrupted our daily routines, made us adapt and change the ways in which we do things, and has radically shifted our realities; and*

***WHEREAS**, undocumented immigrants contribute to our economy, community, and the overall health of our nation in a multitude of ways; and*

***WHEREAS**, leaving immigrants out of any and all COVID-19 related relief packages and bills created by the U.S. Congress increases the spread of the virus due to the fear associated to accessing healthcare, the lack of stability in housing, and the overall financial repercussions and instability that results from loss of income; and*

***WHEREAS**, undocumented immigrants are working jobs considered essential, are on the front lines of the battle against the pandemic, and are now heroes, risking their lives for their brothers and sisters who call this country home and for our country's economy; and*

***WHEREAS**, farm workers are predominately undocumented immigrants who are working to feed our nation through this pandemic and have done so long before it; and*

***WHEREAS**, it is not only the humane thing, but the right thing to include all people living in these United States in relief packages and bills, as we are all affected by this virus that knows no race, ethnicity, nationality, or place of origin, and all should receive relief; and*

***WHEREAS**, when everyone is included and protected, regardless of immigration status, our whole El Paso community is protected and made stronger, as we are only as strong as our weakest member, it is in our individual and collective interests that we ALL have the means to be healthy; and*

***WHEREAS**, extending financial and health resources to our undocumented population, not only because it is the socially just thing to do, but because this pandemic will only be controlled when every segment of society is fully protected and cared for.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the El Paso County Judge and Commissioners Court that we strive to and strongly advocate for:*

- 1. Working collaboratively with the private and public sectors to create an alternate fund which members of our community who have been excluded from other state and federal aid can access;*
- 2. Will thoroughly consider the merits upon which individuals can access existing funds through the County's General Assistance Fund, including the ramifications of such an action given the Trump Administration's promulgation of the "Public Charge" rule; and*
- 3. Express and extend support to our federal delegation, including Congresswoman Veronica Escobar, Congressman Will Hurd, Senator John Cornyn, and Senator Ted Cruz to press forward with enacting a fourth stimulus relief package and to relay and advocate to their colleagues in the U.S. Congress on our behalf that this fourth package ought to include language granting financial assistance to all members of our El Paso, Texas, and United States community, including undocumented families, and mixed legal status families.*

***SIGNED**, this 20th day of April 2020*

Commissioner Carlos Leon, Pct. 1

Commissioner David Stout, Pct. 2

Commissioner Vincent M. Perez, Pct. 3

Commissioner Carl Robinson, Pct. 4

Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge