



Each biennium the Commissioners Court of Bexar County adopts a program to communicate its position on state legislation. The following document is intended to be a guide for the county's governmental affairs efforts during the 88th Texas Legislature.

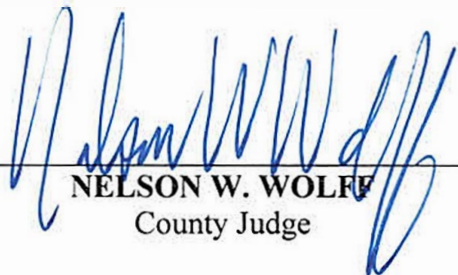
The program is divided into two categories:

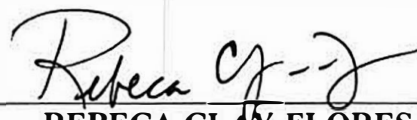
- ★ Initiatives: priority items that will be actively pursued to promote passage of a bill; and,
- ★ Policies: provide guidance as to the general position of the commissioners court.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY OF BEXAR COMMISSIONERS COURT ADOPTED ITS:**

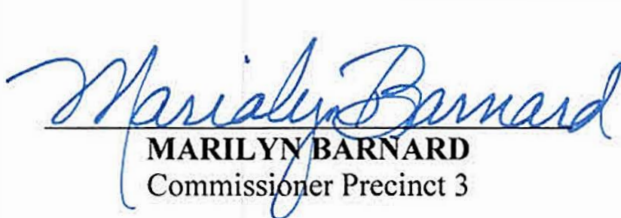
**LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE 88TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

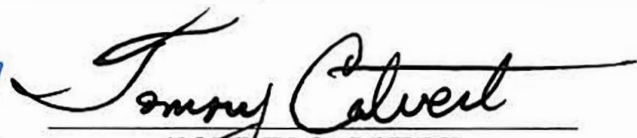
**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Commissioners Court of the County of Bexar, Texas on this the 15TH day of NOVEMBER, 2022.

  
NELSON W. WOLFF  
County Judge

  
REBECA CLAY-FLORES  
Commissioner Precinct 1

  
JUSTIN RODRIGUEZ  
Commissioner Precinct 2

  
MARILYN BARNARD  
Commissioner Precinct 3

  
TOMMY CALVERT  
Commissioner Precinct 4

**INITIATIVES****★ Indigent Defense Funding**

Increase funding to the Texas Indigent Defense Commission to close the funding gap and ensure more grant funding to counties, thus providing tax relief to local taxpayers and assist in offsetting the costs of this significant state-imposed tax increase.

**★ Probate Court**

Creation of an additional probate court in Bexar County.

**★ Prompt Justice**

Amend *Article 14.06 (c)* of the *Code of Criminal Procedure* to extend the same authority to the county sheriff receiving the person as that granted to the arresting officer.

**POLICIES****★ Appraisal Reform**

Support legislation to increase fairness, consistency, and predictability in the property appraisal and appraisal review process.

**★ Behavioral Health & Criminal Justice**

Support per capita funding and innovative behavioral health and criminal justice initiatives.

**★ Certificates of Obligation**

Oppose legislation that affects the ability of local jurisdictions to issue certificates of obligation.

**★ County Funding & Revenues**

Oppose legislation or appropriation decisions that create unfunded mandates or divert county revenues.

**★ Digital Divide**

Support legislation and funding to address gaps in digital inclusion such as access to broadband services, digital devices, and digital literacy skills.

**★ Domestic Violence**

Support efforts to prevent and eliminate domestic violence and enhance the protection of survivors/victims.

**★ Emergency Response**

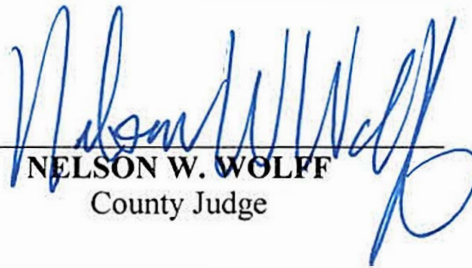
Support legislation that ensures all Texans are protected during emergencies, i.e. pandemics, and weather and natural disasters.

**★ First Responders' College Tuition**

Support legislation that expands free college tuition to any first responder to include detention deputies and telecommunicators who enroll in criminal justice courses.

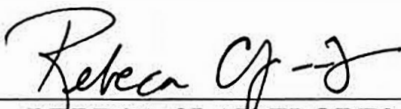
- ★ **Local Control**  
Oppose arbitrary limitations of local control.
- ★ **Permanent Supportive Housing**  
Support the preservation and expansion of permanent supportive housing in which assistance and supportive services are provided to assist households with at least one member (adult or child) with a physical or mental and behavioral health disability in achieving housing stability.
- ★ **Public Safety Licensing**  
Support legislation to allow those whose immigration status is listed as Legal Permanent Resident, and who have served honorably in the United States Military be allowed to hold a TCOLE Texas Peace Officer License, Texas Jailer License, Telecommunications Officer License, or a Texas Commission on Fire Protection certification.
- ★ **Pro Tem Attorney Appointment**  
Support legislation that will allow any attorney to serve as a pro tem attorney when the current district attorney is disqualified to act.
- ★ **Raise the Age**  
Support legislation that raises the minimum age to purchase a semi-automatic weapon from 18 to 21.
- ★ **School Funding**  
In an effort to provide meaningful tax relief and alleviate some of the burden off homeowners, support the use of the unprecedented funding in the State's coffers to help fund public schools.
- ★ **School Safety**  
Support legislation to improve the safety and security of school facilities for staff, students, and visitors.
- ★ **State Functions**  
Oppose legislation that requires local jurisdictions to perform a state function.
- ★ **Voter Registration**  
Support the creation of an online voter registration system.

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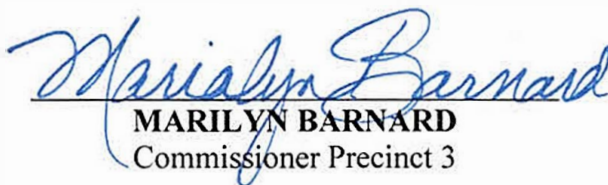
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Commissioner Precinct 1



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MARILYN BARNARD  
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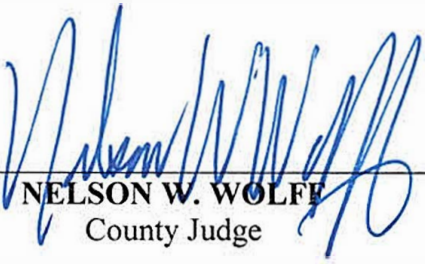
TOMMY CALVERT  
Commissioner Precinct 4

**INITIATIVES**


★ **Vehicle Registration Fee Election**

Amend the *Transportation Code* to allow a county to seek voter approval to increase the additional vehicle registration fee in an amount not to exceed \$20.

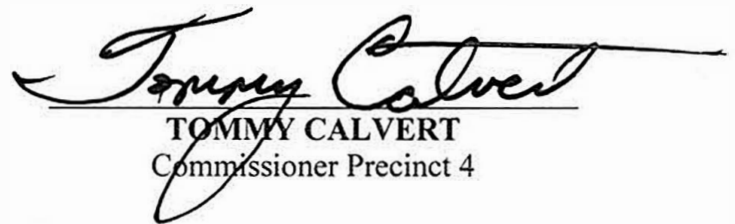
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**POLICIES**

- ★ **Red Flag Laws**  
Support legislation that permits courts to temporarily remove firearms from people deemed a danger to themselves or others.
- ★ **Reproductive Rights\***  
Supports the rights of individuals to make private reproductive decisions and opposes laws and policies intended to restrict reproductive rights and curtail healthcare access.

\*to include a separate Resolution

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF BEXAR

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**RESOLUTION – SUPPORTING  
INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS TO HEALTHCARE**

**WHEREAS**, on June 24th, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States issued *Dobbs v. Jackson*, a decision which overturned *Roe v. Wade* and eliminated over 50 years of the federal constitutional right of privacy protecting an individual’s decision to terminate a pregnancy, removing the rights of millions of individuals to make their own decisions regarding their reproductive health; and

**WHEREAS**, Bexar County recognizes that reproductive rights are human rights and embraces the tenets of equality, dignity, autonomy, and respect for private life with the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, without discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, Bexar County supports a woman’s full range of reproductive rights, including choosing to continue a pregnancy to birth; and

**WHEREAS**, abortion can constitute an essential reproductive health service and its availability is an important part of ensuring every individual’s right to safe and accessible health care; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 16, 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed into law HB1280, that criminalizes abortion at the felony level with a sentence of up to 99 years in prison with no exception for rape or incest, which took effect statewide 30 days after the Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade* (referred to commonly as a “trigger” law); and

**WHEREAS**, the right to a safe abortion has proven essential to the ability of people to protect their health, safety and welfare and banning abortion does not prevent abortion, it only prevents safe and legal abortions, as evidenced by the many people harmed or killed by illicit procedures in the years before *Roe v. Wade* was decided; and

**WHEREAS**, laws and policies enacted to restrict reproductive rights and curtail health care access disproportionately impact communities of color, those living in poverty and rural communities, and those who cannot afford to travel to clinics in neighboring states, and such policies only amplify the risk of residents undergoing unsafe and life-threatening procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, the resources of Bexar County should always be dedicated to the health and well-being of its residents, and

**WHEREAS**, this right to privacy should protect patients, as well as doctors and all other individuals providing abortion-related medical care, from any criminal investigation related to decisions made within the health care provider-patient relationship, so long as those decisions occur without coercion, force, or negligence; and

**WHEREAS**, equitable access to abortion care requires financial and logistical support, practical support organizations, and volunteers who have been targeted by the State for providing these services; and

**WHEREAS**, Bexar County has a responsibility to protect its residents from any violation of their human rights and any criminalization of the free exercise thereof within the bounds of the law; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY BEXAR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT:**



**Section 1.** Bexar County affirms the rights of individuals to make private reproductive decisions. Bexar County affirms a woman’s right to choose and formally condemns any actions intended to restrict, abrogate or deny the liberties of Bexar County residents.

**Section 2.** Bexar County recognizes the Bexar County Criminal District Attorney’s asserted policy of exercising his discretion in deciding whether to prosecute any law criminalizing intensely personal healthcare decisions and encourages local law enforcement agencies to take notice in exercising their official duties in Bexar County.

**Section 3.** Bexar County intends to prioritize legislation for the protection of reproductive rights in the County’s legislative agenda for the upcoming State of Texas legislative session that supports the rights of individuals to make private reproductive decisions and repeals laws and restricts policies intended to restrict or abrogate reproductive rights or curtail healthcare access.

**Section 4.** It is the policy recommendation of Bexar County Commissioners Court, except to the extent otherwise required by state or federal law, that County resources under the purview of the County Manager will not be used to:

- a. Collect, store, catalogue, or share any report of an abortion, miscarriage, or other reproductive healthcare act for the purpose of pursuing a criminal investigation
- b. Conduct surveillance, collect, or share information related to an individual or organization for the purpose of determining whether an abortion has occurred or for the purpose of pursuing a criminal investigation
- c. The above-described limitations do not apply to cases where coercion or force is used against the pregnant person, or in cases involving conduct criminally negligent to the health of the pregnant person seeking care

**Section 5.** Bexar County Commissioners Court calls on the Bexar County Sheriff’s Office, Constables, Criminal District Attorney, all other Bexar County elected officials and their offices, University Health System, the Center for Health Care Services, and Emergency Service Districts, except to the extent otherwise required by state or federal law, to join in the protection of Bexar County residents and their personal liberties and:

- a. Abstain from collecting, storing, cataloging, or sharing any report of an abortion, miscarriage, or other reproductive healthcare act for the purpose of pursuing a criminal investigation
- b. Abstain from conducting surveillance, collecting, or sharing information related to an individual or organization for the purpose of determining whether an abortion has occurred or for the purpose of pursuing a criminal investigation
- c. The above-described limitations do not apply in cases where coercion or force is used against the pregnant person, or in cases involving conduct criminally negligent to the health of the pregnant person seeking care

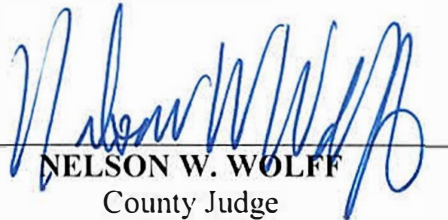
**Section 6.** Bexar County Commissioners Court calls on the Bexar County Sheriff’s Office, Constables, the Office of the Criminal District Attorney, and the judiciary, except to the extent otherwise required by state or federal law, to deprioritize the criminal enforcement, arrest, and investigation of abortions as their lowest priority.

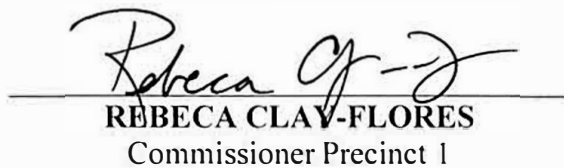
**Section 7.** Bexar County firmly supports using federal facilities and military hospitals to offer reproductive care, to include abortion care, and hereby directs staff to submit a certified copy of this resolution to all eligible federal facilities located in Bexar County.

**Section 8.** Bexar County Commissioners Court hereby directs staff to consider recommendations related to:

- a. Prohibiting the intra-state and out-of-state extradition of any individual for any activity related to abortion or abortion access.
- b. Working with local healthcare experts, industries and healthcare providers including University Health System to establish policies for protecting access to reproductive healthcare.
- c. Protecting abortion seekers and providers; preserving safe and effective access to reproductive care; and other avenues for Bexar County to protect the health and well-being of its residents.

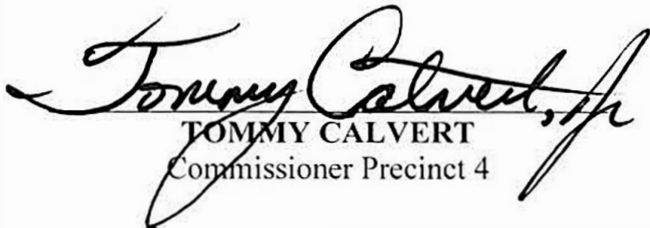
**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Commissioners Court of the County of Bexar, Texas on this 15th day of November, 2022.

  
NELSON W. WOLFF  
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