

**A RESOLUTION SEEKING INTRODUCTION AND PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION  
RELATING TO REALTIONS BETWEEN CITIES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES  
DISTRICTS**

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Services Districts operate with little oversight regarding finances, and are not accountable to the voters; and

**WHEREAS**, Emergency Services Districts set tax rates and collect taxes, but do so without democratic accountability; and

**WHEREAS**, the elected officials of municipalities and cities believe the responsibility for public safety is a critical duty owed their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the elected officials of municipalities and cities believe the responsibility for public finance is a critical duty owed their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the elected officials of municipalities and cities believe the responsibility for emergency preparedness is a critical duty owed their citizens, and

**WHEREAS**, the elected officials of municipalities and cities believe the responsibility for planning and economic development is critical duty owed their citizens, and

**WHEREAS**, the elected officials of municipalities and cities believe their ability to address and/or to collaborate with accountable entities on these critical responsibilities is impeded under current State of Texas laws and regulations concerning emergency services due to the delegated governmental authority of taxation without representation; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Texas has failed its own municipalities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the delegates assembled at this 2022 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seeks introduction and passage of legislation requiring the State of Texas to reform Emergency Services Districts so that:

1. Taxation decisions are made solely by elected bodies.
  - a. ESD boards must be elected, particularly where they serve cities over 20,000 people.
  - b. ESD board budgets must be approved by the County Commissioners
  - c. ESD board budgets must be approved City Councils of the cities they serve
2. Cities cannot be annexed by emergency services district without the consent both of their voters and their elected representatives.
3. Cities should be allowed to annex ESDs serving the city area and cities on an equitable basis. When a city decides to serve an area previously served by an ESD, the city should pay nothing to the ESD for buildings and capital equipment that is already paid for, as the taxpayers of the area should not be taxed twice to pay for the same equipment and facilities,
4. Cities and their associated economic development or community development corporations should be given the full benefit of sales tax collections when they annex areas covered by ESDs. To the extent the ESDs prevent the city and EDC or CDC from collecting their full amount of

sales tax authorized by the voters, the ESD should yield that sales tax collection to the municipality, EDC or CDC.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of Pflugerville, Texas.

APPROVED:

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Victor Gonzales, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Trista Evans, City Secretary