

Resolution to Support Creating the Department of Texas Homeland Security and Texas Border Force

Whereas, since the inception of Texas, the protection of the state’s southern border continues to remain a top priority for the safety of our sovereign territory and communities¹;

Whereas, border security efforts continue to be a top financial priority for the state budget for more than a decade²;

Whereas, since the 1960s to present, the number of illegal alien encounters across the southwestern border continues to remain high³ and has rapidly escalated to dangerously unsustainable levels, exposing Texas communities to unnecessary strain and imperilment⁴;

Whereas, regardless of the failures of federal policies and administrations, Texas maintains the authority and obligation to protect itself and its citizens and uphold its sovereign interest in protecting its borders⁵;

Therefore, in order to address the ongoing long-standing threats to Texas’ southern border; to ensure finite resources and funding are maximized,

Be it Resolved, the Texas Republican Party hereby requires action by the official designated Texas offices in adherence to Texas Gov. Code 402.035, in accordance with Federal statute and law, any additional administrative action; to secure Texas’ border with Mexico⁶,

Be it Resolved; Texas legislators shall consider legislation to create the Texas Department of Homeland Security as an individual entity working collaboratively with other appropriate law enforcement agencies across the state;

Be it Resolved, the Texas legislature shall create within the new department, a Texas Border Force, separate, but working collaboratively, with the Texas Department of Public Safety, to be located along Texas’ border with Mexico and under the direction, including but not limited to, the Texas Border Czar appointed by the Governor;

Be it Resolved, the Legislature will continue to fund and support the expansion of regional cooperative Operation Lone Star task forces statewide for the safety and security of Texas;

Be it Resolved, the Legislature will create a program within the department to help incentivize expanding the 287g program in counties that cooperate with Operation Lone Star task forces and operations.

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¹ “History of Texas Rangers,” Texas Department of Public Safety, last accessed March 7, 2024.

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/texas-rangers/history-texas-rangers>

² Lori Kriel, Perla Trevizo, “Texas has spent billions of dollars on border security,” The Texas Tribune, April 18, 2022,

<https://www.texastribune.org/2022/04/18/texas-border-security-spending/>

³ “Southwest Border Sectors Total Encounters by Fiscal Year,” United States Customs and Border Protection, last accessed March

7, 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/media-resources/stats>

⁴ Bethany Blankley, “Border agents apprehend greatest number of criminal noncitizens in recorded history in fiscal ’23,” The Center Square, Oct. 24, 2023. https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/article_fbeb1c6a-72a7-11ee-8edc-2b7fac1e5f63.html

⁵ “Governor Abbott issues statement on Texas’ constitutional right to self-defense,” The Office of the Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Jan. 24, 2024. <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-issues-statement-on-texas-constitutional-right-to-self-defense>

⁶ Texas Government Code 402.035, <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/docs/GV/htm/GV.402.htm>, last accessed March 7, 2024.