

## March 5, 2007 – Ballot Security Committee Report

### **RESOLUTION REGARDING ELECTION LAW REFORM FOR PURPOSES OF PROTECTING THE SANCTITY OF THE ELECTION PROCESS**

**WHEREAS** the election process is the cornerstone of our representative democracy; and

**WHEREAS** protection of our representative democracy requires, even mandates, the protection of the sanctity of the election process through the passage of laws designed to ensure fair, open, honest and pure elections. Therefore be it:

**RESOLVED** that the Harris County Republican Party strongly encourages all elected officials including without limitation those Texas State Senators and Texas State Representatives participating in the 2007 Legislative Session to review, consider and revise current election and related laws or, where applicable, protect current election and related laws, as follows:

- (1) Provide for the mandatory periodic comparison of voter registration rolls with death notice data from the local Bureau of Vital Statistics, probate court records, death notices from the local newspaper and the local District Clerk records from those called for jury duty to remove deceased persons and non-citizens from the voter registration rolls.
- (2) Provide that persons voting a “Provisional Ballot” in a Primary Election may **NOT** participate in a precinct convention.
- (3) Specifically provide that election personnel shall be allowed to participate in precinct conventions in their own precinct before returning their election returns, their JBC unit (in the case of certain types of DRE systems), and their election supplies in a Primary election.
- (4) Support religious freedom protection laws to permit churches and members of the clergy to speak out on public policy issues.
- (5) Modify “motor voter” laws to the end that driver’s license renewal locations would no longer be required to register or to offer voter registration to persons renewing their driver’s license.
- (6) Mandate the use of “English Only” Ballots for all elections.

- (7) Continue to oppose all efforts for same day voter registration.
- (8) Continue to oppose all efforts for internet voting, internet voter registration, fax voting and fax voter registration with potentially limited certain exceptions for the military, military personnel, their families and astronauts.

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be posted on the County Party’s website and sent to all Republican State Representatives and Republican State Senators.

-- Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07

### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ELECTION LAW REFORM EFFORTS OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE DEBBIE RIDDLE**

**RESOLVED** that the Harris County Republican Party supports and commends the actions of State Representative Debbie Riddle to preserve the integrity of the election process through her efforts to pass meaningful election law reform including legislation mandating the requirements of photo identification and proof of citizenship to register and qualify to vote.

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be posted on the County Party’s website and sent to all Republican State Representatives and Republican State Senators.

-- Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

**RESOLUTION ON METRO FUNDING**

WHEREAS in 1978 Houston area voters approved a one cent sales tax to support METRO operations, and

WHEREAS over the past 29 years METRO has received billions of dollars from the Federal Government, and

WHEREAS other governmental entities could better use the one cent sales tax revenue to provide services that would benefit a larger group of persons, such as increased fire and police services,

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED that the Harris County Republican Party urges a recall and a new vote to reallocate this tax.

-- *Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07*

**RESOLUTION ON ELECTING METRO BOARD**

*WHEREAS METRO is governed by an appointed board that has lost its perspective*

WHEREAS the METRO Board has become one of the most powerful boards in the country,

WHEREAS the METRO Board has lied to and ignored the will of the voters, and

WHEREAS the METRO Board has approved a multi-million dollar contract that benefited one of the board member's employer, and

WHEREAS the voters have lost confidence in the METRO Board, and

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED that the Harris County Republican Party urges the State Legislature to amend the Transportation Code to make the METRO Board an elected board who answers to the voters and not the special interests.

-- *Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07*

## March 5, 2007 – Local Government Committee – Immigration Sub-committee Report

### RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF THE IMMIGRATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY FOR THE 2007 TEXAS STATE LEGISLATIVE GENERAL SESSION

**Whereas** the national neglect of immigration enforcement and the resulting border chaos is a threat to the sovereignty and national security of the United States; and

**Whereas** there is still no coherent, consistent, or effective national immigration enforcement policy in place in the United States; and

**Whereas** the U.S. Congress and the President continue to deny the existence of an illegal immigration national security crises and the effects of the disregard for the rule of law and ignore the existence of a proliferation of terrorism precursor crimes by foreign nationals; and

**Whereas** the Texas Republican Party Platform states “**Illegal Immigration – No amnesty! No how. No way. With growing impatience,** the American people in overwhelming numbers have asked our government to secure our borders. They now demand it and we as a party agree with the American people. Illegal aliens have, by definition, committed a criminal act. We oppose illegal immigration, amnesty in any form, or legal status for illegal immigrants”; and

**Whereas** the 2007 Texas Legislature has convened with a majority of both the Texas Senate and Texas House represented by Republican members, now therefore.

**Be IT Resolved** that we, the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, direct the Texas Senate and House of Representatives, as well as Governor Rick Perry, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, and Speaker Tom Craddick to pass legislation to enable local law enforcement officials to apprehend and turn over to the Immigration Service any illegal alien involved in any violation of our laws, including traffic violations, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call on the Legislature to pass

1. H.B. 28 Author: Berman, Crabb, Christian, Riddle – relating to deny State Benefits to illegal aliens.
2. H.B. 29 Author: Berman, Crabb, Christian, Riddle - to impose a fee on money transmissions to Mexico, Central America and South America and providing for reimbursement of the fee for Citizens or legal residents of the United States.
3. H.B. 38 Author: Solomons - to require applicants for certain licenses to be citizens or legal residents of the U. S.
4. H.B. 40 Author: Paxton, Flynn, Bonnen - to require applicants for medical assistance to provide proof of citizenship or legal resident of U.S.

5. H.B. 104 Author: Riddle, Van Arsdale and H.B. 141 Author: Jackson, Brown, Betty - to restrict resident status for tuition and fees charged by public institutions of higher education to citizens and legal residents of the State of Texas.
6. H.B. 127 Author: Delisi - to require state agencies to report the cost of services and benefits to illegal aliens.
7. H.B. 325 Author: Leibowitz - relating to construction projects employing undocumented workers.
8. H.B. 858 Author: Talton and H.B. 1256 Author Hildebran- relating to the enforcement of federal immigration and customs laws by the Department of Public Safety and its designated peace officers. by authorizing a peace officer to inquire into the immigration status, arrest illegal aliens and report the them to the Immigration Service.
9. H.B. 904 Author: Zedlar - to prohibit the construction or operation by a local government entity of a day labor center used to facilitate the employment of illegal aliens.
10. H.B. 905 Author: Zedlar - to require verifying the immigration status of defendants confined in correctional facilities and reporting their status to the Immigration Service.
11. H.B. 906 Author: Zedlar - relating to the regulation of immigration assistance services; providing civil and criminal penalties.
12. H.B. 907 Author: Zedlar – to allow the Dept. of Public Safety to enforce federal immigration and customs laws .
13. H.B. 931 Author: Harper-Brown, Jackson – relating to verification of legal presence in U. S. of an applicant for a drivers license, personal identification certificate, or commercial drivers license.
14. H.B. 932 Author: Harper-Brown – requiring driver’s license, personal identification certificate, or commercial driver’s license to state whether the holder is a citizen of the U.S.
15. H.B. 1012 Author: Riddle – to prevent local government entities from adopting a policy not to enforce state and federal laws relating to drugs and immigration.
16. H.B. 1108 Author: Harper-Brown and 1274 Author: Jackson – Require certain tests for a commercial driver’s license be conducted in English.
17. H.B. 101 Author: Riddle – relating to procedures for registering to vote and accepting a voter at a polling place.

-- Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07

**HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM JAIL AND AN IMMEDIATE NEW TRIAL FOR BORDER PATROL AGENTS IGNACIO RAMOS AND JOSE COMPEAN**

Harris County Republican Party Resolution Supporting the immediate release from jail and an immediate new trial for Border Patrol Agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean

**Whereas**, fellow Texans – Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean, have been persecuted, prosecuted and wrongfully sent to prison by Federal prosecutor Johnny Sutton, and Judge Kathleen Cardone..... at the specific behest of the government of Mexico...

**And whereas**, these heroic, patriotic and hard working border patrol agents face death every day having been incarcerated in federal prisons where other incarcerated persons are illegal aliens and drug dealers .....

**And whereas** that the Governor of the state of Texas having failed to intervene with Federal and Justice Department officials for our fellow Texans and protectors of our border while the Mexican officials orchestrated an investigation into these Texas law enforcement officers and this incident for their citizen drug smuggler - Aldrete-Davila - by contacting these same Federal and Justice Department officials.....

**And whereas** the United States Senators of the Great State of Texas continue to offer no meaningful assistance or support in these agent's plight in the plain face of judicial and prosecutorial violation and misconduct as well as civil rights violations for these wrongfully accused, prosecuted and persecuted border law enforcement protectors....

**And whereas** the border agents were denied due process by being incarcerated while being denied a transcript to further their appeal due to the lack of action Judge Kathleen Cardone who refused to finalize the transcript and make it available to defendant lawyers, the media and other lawyers desiring to work the case for the sole purpose of delaying justice and the truth in the original trial....

**And whereas** Federal prosecutors, Johnny Sutton and Assistant U. S. Attorney Kanof, withheld exculpatory information from the jury and the defense attorneys that is required by law to be turned over to the defense...

**And whereas** the Federal prosecutor – Johnny Sutton – chose to prosecute these fine Americans on the basis of testimony bought and paid for from a known criminal drug runner granted immunity for all crimes “committed on that day”

**And whereas** the cross border entry pass provided by the prosecutors to allow the drug dealer, Aldrete-Davila, to enter the United States to testify against the Border Patrol Agents was thereafter misused to transport drugs once again...

**And whereas** Aldrete-Davila being apprehended a second time for smuggling drugs violated his immunity agreement which should have resulted in Aldrete-Davila being prosecuted providing cause for dropping the case against the border agents....

**And whereas** the Federal prosecutor “had to beg him”, Aldrete-Davila, as “he did not want to come and talk about this”....

**And whereas** the Federal prosecutor Johnny Sutton disregarded and superseded valid internal investigations that had cleared these officers

**Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Harris County Republican Party Executive urges all members of the Texas Senate and House of Representatives, as well as Governor Rick Perry and Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, to support in everyway possible these law enforcement officers – Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean – fellow Texans, to be immediately released from prison on bond and to be granted immediately new trials, not a pardon as such a pardon may be construed as an admission of guilt where in this case there is none.**

--Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING GOVERNOR PERRY'S EXECUTIVE ORDER RP65 WHICH MANDATES THE HPV VACCINE**

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2007, Governor Rick Perry signed RP65, the Executive Order mandating "*vaccination of all female children for HPV prior to admission to the sixth grade*"; and,

WHEREAS, the HPV vaccine would have been 'pro-parent' if it had been an 'opt-in' program, but Governor Perry mandated a 'pro-government' program by making it 'opt-out'; and,

WHEREAS, RP65 denies the 80th Texas Legislature the due process of filing bills on this subject to be discussed and debated, in addition to denying the citizens and medical professionals of Texas their right to testify on this subject; and,

WHEREAS, the Gardasil vaccinations are too new, too controversial, too expensive, and are a risk reduction - not a "cure" for all cervical cancer; and,

WHEREAS, the Gardasil website says, "*Only a doctor or healthcare professional can decide if GARDASIL is right for you or your daughter*"; and,

WHEREAS, by mandating the HPV vaccine, Merck, or any other future manufacturer, is absolved from any liability for any injuries or deaths through the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986; and,

WHEREAS, the current Texas Republican Party Platform plank on immunizations reads: "*We believe all adult citizens should have the legally protected right to conscientiously choose which vaccines are administered to themselves or their minor children without penalty or discrimination for refusing a vaccine*"; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that we, the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, do hereby strongly commend Senator Kyle Janek and State Representatives Dennis Bonnen and Charlie Howard for their leadership in filing bills to dismantle the mandates of RP65, leaving parents the freedom to make health decisions for their own children, and we commend all Legislators who have co-authored and/or co-sponsored legislation supporting the same; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that we, the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, do hereby strongly oppose Governor Rick Perry's Executive Order RP65 and call on Governor Perry to immediately rescind RP65; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that we direct the HCRP staff to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Perry, Lt. Governor Dewhurst, and every Republican member of the Texas House and Senate within 3 days of passage of this resolution.

-- [Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07](#)

## **Resolution to Urge Harris County School Trustees to Honor Ronald Reagan by Naming the Headquarters of the Harris County Department of Education in Reagan's Memory**

We, the Executive Committee of the Harris County Republican Party, urge the Trustees of the Harris County Department of Education to name their Headquarters Building located at 6300 Irvington Boulevard in Houston, Texas the "Ronald W. Reagan Harris County Department of Education Administration Building". We commend those trustees who have already been working to make this happened as this will be the first publican building in Harris County named in honor of President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07

## **Resolution in Support of Judge Robert Eckels**

WHEREAS, Judge Robert Eckels has served this county for over 25 years, first in the Texas Legislature, then over 12 years as Harris County Judge, and

WHEREAS, Judge Robert Eckels has faithfully and tirelessly supported the Harris County Republican Party and our candidates with significant and continual financial support, and has earned the trust of the Harris County Republican Party through his leadership, and

WHEREAS, Harris County Republican Party honored Judge Robert Eckels as the Party's "Republican of the Year" in 1997 and again in 2002, and

WHEREAS, Judge Robert Eckels showed tremendous leadership during the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita crises and brought honor and positive publicity to the Harris County Republican Party, and

WHEREAS, Judge Robert Eckels stood tall by being a true leader and an honorable and humble man in the Ronald Reagan mode,

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Harris County Republican Party thanks Judge Robert Eckels for his record of outstanding service and high level of commitment to conservative principles, and wishes him the best in his future,

BE IT FURTHER resolved, that the Harris County Republican Party trusts his good judgment in putting forward a strong conservative Republican to be voted on by Commissioners Court.

-- Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07

## **Resolution calling for repeal of 2005 legislation allowing creation of the "Gulf Coast Freight Rail District," and opposing using state funds to build freight or commuter rail**

Whereas, The Texas legislature, **over the objections of the Harris County Republican Party**, passed legislation in 2005 (House Bill 2958) that allows Harris County, the city of Houston and nearby counties to establish a "freight rail district," now titled the **Gulf Coast Freight Rail District**;

Whereas, State law allows such a district to have access to eminent domain powers, to build new rail facilities, and engage in commuter rail operations;

Whereas, The legislature passed in 2005 can be amended to allow a freight rail district the power to tax and perhaps do road building; be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Harris County Republican Party (1) remains opposed to a freight rail district, (2) opposes such a district having taxing powers, (3) calls for repeal of the legislation which is a blatant example of needless governmental expansion (AKA "mission creep") ... and (4) opposes use of state resources to build freight or commuter rail facilities.

-- Adopted by the Harris County Republican Party Executive Committee, 03/05/07