



RESOLUTION

OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION OF THE COUNTYWIDE POLLING PLACE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Lubbock County has participated in the Countywide Polling Place Program since 2007, utilizing 99 voting precincts and 38 polling locations; and

WHEREAS, Lubbock County was named by the 80th Texas Legislature in the original pilot program for the November 7, 2006 general election and has continued participation with overwhelming support from the voters and county officials; and

WHEREAS, many constituents benefit from the ability to vote on Election Day at a polling location of their choice without having to adjust their work schedules, thanks to the Countywide Polling Place Program; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Countywide Polling Place Program has contributed to increased voter turnout and a reduction in the number of provisional ballots in Lubbock County; and

WHEREAS, the requirement for precinct-based voting locations in Lubbock County poses significant expenses and hardships for both the county and its constituents, as not every voting precinct has public buildings available for polling sites, and private facilities are not obligated to allow their use; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has authorized the use of electronic poll books under Texas Election Code §31.014, which enable voters to sign in electronically while verifying their identity with official identification, and confirming that they have not already voted via absentee ballot or at another polling location, thus dramatically reducing voter fraud and improving wait times for voters; and

WHEREAS, electronic ballot marking devices allow voters to cast their ballots with the assistance of electronics on a physical ballot. These devices do not store or tabulate votes but enable voters to review their choices before submitting their ballot, providing reassurance that their vote is recorded accurately; and

WHEREAS, the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) asserts that any state or jurisdiction that ends the use of accessible voting systems is in violation of existing laws and may face significant litigation risks. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) recognizes that hand-marked ballots are not accessible and do not enable voters with disabilities to cast a private and independent vote; and

WHEREAS, all Texas counties that use electronic poll books and electronic ballot marking devices are required by law to obtain approval and annual certification from the Texas Secretary of State to ensure the security of the voting process for the public; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Lubbock County believes that reverting to precinct-based voting would negatively impact the voting community, decrease voter turnout, and potentially disenfranchise a significant number of voters, including those with disabilities; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the undersigned elected officials of Lubbock County oppose any efforts by the Texas Legislature to eliminate countywide polling places, electronic poll books, and electronic marking devices.

Passed and Approved on this 10th Day of March, 2025.

Curtis Parrish, County Judge

Mike Dalby, Precinct One

Jason Corley, Precinct Two

Cary W. Shaw, Precinct Three

Jordan Rackler, Precinct Four

ATTEST:

REVIEWED FOR FORM:

Kelly Pinion, County Clerk

Neal Burt, CDA-Civil