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RESOLUTION NO. 21- 81

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF EL PASO, STATE OF COLORADO

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND POSITION ON HB21-1047: COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
DISTRICTS GERRYMANDERING AND TO SUPPORT PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 30-10-101(1), 30-11-103, and 30-11-107, the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado ("County" or "Board"), has the legislative authority to manage the concerns of the County and to exercise such other and further powers as are conferred by law; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of said authority, the Board previously adopted the 2021 El Paso County State Legislative Policy Guide ("Policy") by way of Resolution No. 21-42; and

WHEREAS, the Policy, in part, sets forth the process by which the Board may formally support or oppose any state legislation proposed for calendar year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Board previously provided direction to staff that they oppose HB21-1047 and to support amendments proposed to the bill sponsor by Arapahoe County; and

WHEREAS, the Board now wishes to amend their position from oppose to neutral; and

WHEREAS, the Board now desires to ratify its direction by way of formal letter, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners, State of Colorado, County of El Paso, is hereby adopting a neutral position on HB21-1047.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board formally adopts the attached letter as its official position of neutrality on HB21-1047.

DONE THIS 10th day of March, 2021, at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

ATTN:



Chuck Broerman  
County Clerk & Recorder

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

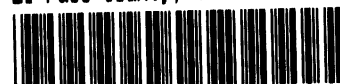
By:

Chair

*Stan Waudeluy*

Chuck Broerman  
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El Paso County, CO



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**EL PASO COUNTY**  
COLORADO

**Letter Amending Position HB21-1047: County  
Commissioner Districts Gerrymandering**

March 9, 2021  
719-520-7276  
Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

**Board of County Commissioners**

Holly Williams, District 1  
Carrie Geitner, District 2  
Stan VanderWerf, District 3  
Longinos Gonzalez, Jr., District 4  
Cami Bremer, District 5

March 9, 2021

The Honorable Chris Kennedy, State Representative  
State Capitol  
Denver, CO 80203

Representative Kennedy,

On behalf of the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners, we're writing to you to let you know of a change of position regarding HB21-1047: County Commissioner Districts Gerrymandering.

As you know, our Board initially took a unanimous position of opposition to this bill. We felt that it unfairly singled out three counties and infringed on the concept of local control.

On Tuesday, March 2, during our weekly Board of County Commissioners meeting, we decided to change our position on this bill from oppose to neutral. While we continue to have major concerns about the intent and effect of this proposed legislation, and would like to continue the discussion on ways to alleviate the remaining concerns we have, we do recognize that you have made important concessions and acknowledge that this bill is in a better place than it was when it was first introduced.

We still feel this concept is not the right solution for El Paso County, but we were encouraged by your willingness to consider a list of amendments proposed by us and our colleagues in Arapahoe County. We graciously ask you to push for the adoption of amendment L.001 to the bill and to continue conversations with us around implementation timelines and the feasibility of completing the redistricting process, with the anticipated delay of federal census data.

Like Arapahoe County, we are also concerned with Section 4 of the bill, which changes how counties could go back from electing commissioners by district to electing them at-large. This is an infringement on local control and the process for how it's done should be left to the sole discretion of counties. Additional conversation around this issue would be appreciated.

Our position of neutral is not an endorsement of this legislation, but rather a recognition of your desire to listen to our concerns to find common ground as well as to incorporate the list of amendments included in L.001. We hope the conversation can continue on this issue and that you will be open to considering additional changes that will better help us execute on the requirements of the bill.

Sincerely,

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Stan VanderWerf, Chair

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Cami Bremer, Vice-Chair

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Longinos Gonzalez, Member

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Holly Williams, Member

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Carrie Geitner, Member