

BOCC

RESOLUTION NO. 22-94

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

**RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE HB22-1131: REDUCE JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT FOR  
YOUNG CHILDREN**

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, the Board, as duly elected representatives of the citizens of El Paso County, acknowledging those powers and responsibilities originating through state law, recognizes the importance of the County's voice being heard when legislators debate and set policy at the state level; and

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to supporting legislation that aligns with El Paso County's Strategic Plan and opposing legislation that goes against the best interests of the citizens they represent; and

WHEREAS, the Board, in its capacity as a duly elected decision-making body, may choose to take an official position of support or opposition on legislation introduced in the Colorado General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Board previously provided direction to staff that they oppose HB22-1131; and

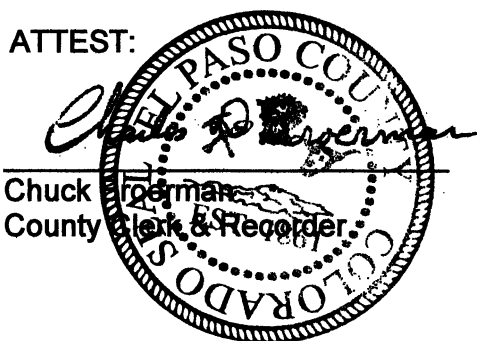
WHEREAS, the Board now desires to ratify its direction by way of formal letter, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners, State of Colorado, County of El Paso, hereby officially opposes HB22-1131.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board formally adopts the attached letter as its official position opposing HB22-1131.


DONE THIS 29<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022, at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

ATTEST:



Chuck Broerman  
County Clerk & Recorder

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

By:   
Vice Chair

Chuck Broerman  
03/30/2022 10:35:41 AM  
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Rec \$0.00 Pages

El Paso County, CO



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EL PASO  COUNTY  
COLORADO

**Letter Opposing HB22-1131: Reduce Justice-involvement  
For Young Children**

March 16, 2022  
719-520-7276  
Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

**Board of County Commissioners**

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

March 16, 2022

Honorable Rep. Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez  
200 E Colfax, Rm 307  
Denver, CO 80203

Honorable Rep. Jennifer Bacon  
200 E Colfax, Rm 307  
Denver, CO 80203

Honorable Sen. Julie Gonzales  
200 E Colfax, Rm 307  
Denver, CO 80203

Honorable Legislators,

Please accept this letter of opposition, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, to House Bill 22-1131: Reduce Justice-involvement For Young Children. El Paso County is opposed to this legislation and would ask that it be postponed indefinitely.

The passage of this bill will result in an unfunded mandate for El Paso County. Our Department of Human Services does not have the resources in Child Welfare to address the incredible increase in workload and financial impact related to this bill.

If this legislation were to pass, all 10 and 11-year-olds that currently can be charged would become the full responsibility of DHS because detention or any juvenile justice support would not be an option. The current juvenile justice support system is structured to handle these cases and we ask that they continue to do so.

If this bill were to continue, it would need to be heavily amended to adequately address our concerns. To allow for additional stakeholder discussion and review, we ask that you move to postpone this bill to allow for dialogue to continue before a new draft is introduced.

Thank you for your time and attention in reviewing this matter, and for your consideration as it relates to our letter of opposition.

Sincerely,



Stan VanderWerf, Chair  
El Paso County Board of Commissioners

**Cc: Honorable Sen. Dennis Hisey**

**Honorable Sen. Paul Lundeen**

**Honorable Sen. Larry Liston**

**Honorable Sen. Pete Lee**

**Honorable Sen. Bob Gardner**

**Honorable Rep. Shane Sandridge**

**Honorable Rep. Dave Williams**

**Honorable Rep. Andres Pico**

**Honorable Rep. Tony Exum**

**Honorable Rep. Marc Snyder**

**Honorable Rep. Tim Geitner**

**Honorable Rep. Terri Carver**

**Honorable Rep. Mary Bradfield**