

JEFFERSON COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD

RESOLUTION

OPPOSING THE SUNSET COMMISSION WITH REGARDS TO ABOLISHING THE TEXAS JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION (TJPC), AND THE JEFFERSON COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD RECOMMENDS TJPC REMAIN AS AN INDEPENDENT STAND-ALONE STATE AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Sunset Commission staff completed their analysis of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and the Texas Youth Commission and released their recommendations on November 11, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Sunset Commission staff recommend the elimination of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and the Texas Youth commission and creation of a new agency to be called the Texas Juvenile Justice Department; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and the Texas Youth Commission have separate missions:

- Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to work with the counties to develop and oversee a local, continuum of community based services;
- Texas Youth Commission to operate institutions for the most serious offenders and provide specialized services, and

WHEREAS, the juvenile probation departments handle 95% of the juvenile justice referrals committing only 5% of the most significant offenders to the Texas Youth Commission; and

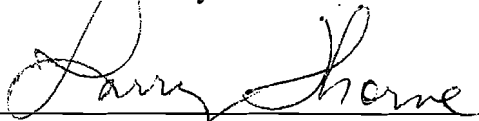
WHEREAS, funding for juvenile probation services is on a statewide average, 70% local money and only 30% State money; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Juvenile Board agrees with the Sunset reports recommendations 1.3 and 1.4 regarding the establishment of a pilot funding program, agrees with 1.5 of consolidating TJPC's funding, agrees with 1.6 of considering past performance in awarding Community Corrections funds, agrees with 1.8 to give Juvenile Courts access to TYC Youth's progress, agrees with 1.9 requiring the adoption of a memorandum of understanding with TCOOMMI, and agrees with 1.10 to require a five year Juvenile Justice Plan, with all these agreed recommendations that should be mandated for TJPC as an independent, stand-alone state agency; and

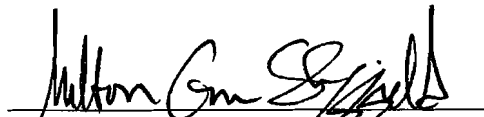
WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Juvenile Board believes any Savings to the State Guidelines in the Sunset Report could be realized through effective leadership at the Texas Youth Commission; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLED that the Jefferson County Juvenile Board violently opposes the recommendation of the Sunset Commission to eliminate the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and vigorously recommends the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to remain as an independent stand-alone State agency in partnership with one hundred sixty-six juvenile probation departments in Texas.

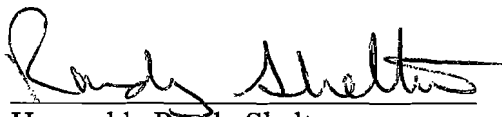
Adopted on this the 9th day of December, 2008 at a duly called meeting of the Jefferson County Juvenile Board.



Honorable Larry Thorne, Chairman
317th District Court



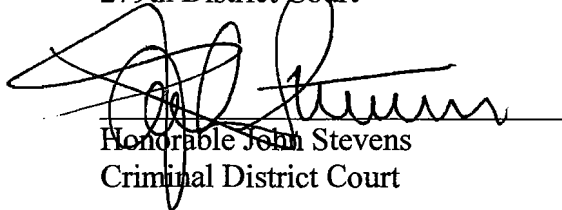
Honorable Milton G. Sheffield
136th District Court



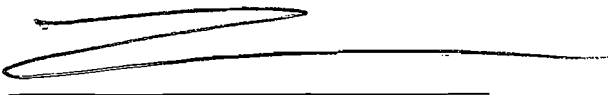
Honorable Randy Shelton
279th District Court



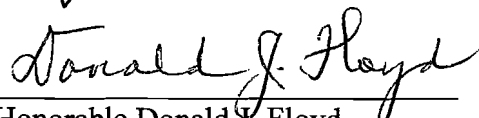
Honorable Bob Wortham
58th District Court



Honorable John Stevens
Criminal District Court



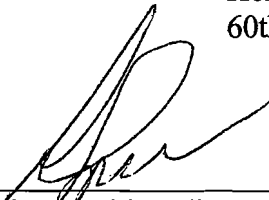
Honorable Layne Walker
252nd District Court



Honorable Donald J. Floyd
172nd District Court



Honorable Gary Sanderson
60th District Court



Honorable Ronald Walker
County Judge