



RESOLUTION

OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION OF THE COUNTYWIDE POLLING PLACE PROGRAM, ELECTRONIC POLL BOOKS, AND ELECTRONIC MARKING DEVICES

WHEREAS, Clay County utilizes electronic poll books and electronic marking devices to conduct elections at 16 voting precincts and 13 polling locations, and

WHEREAS, Clay County does not participate in the Countywide Polling Place Program, but many constituents have benefited from the ability to vote on Election Day at a polling location of their choice without having to adjust their work schedules, and

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

WHEREAS, the requirement for precinct-based voting locations, in some counties, 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 Section 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 Secretary of State to ensure the security of the voting process for the public, and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Clay County believes that reverting to hand-marked ballots 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 oppose any efforts by the Texas Legislature to eliminate countywide polling places, electronic poll books, and electronic marking devices


PASSED AND APPROVED this 24th day of February, 2025


MIKE CAMPBELL
COUNTY JUDGE



BEN PHARRIES
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #1

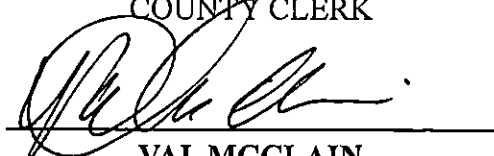

JACK PICKETT
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #2


RETTA COLLINS
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #3


CHASE BROUSSARD
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #4

ATTEST:


SASHA KELTON
COUNTY CLERK


VAL MCCLAIN
ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR