

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2111

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HB 1189 TO BAN TAXPAYER-FUNDED LOBBYING WHILE ENSURING SMALL CITIES RETAIN A VOICE IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

WHEREAS, the City Council of Lago Vista believes in responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars and supports ending the use of public funds for direct lobbying efforts, which historically benefit large cities like the City of Austin who have more money to spend on high powered lobbyists who advocate for policies that hurt smaller communities like Lago Vista; and

WHEREAS, HB 1189, authored by Representative Ellen Troxclair, prohibits political subdivisions from using taxpayer funds to hire registered lobbyists or pay associations that engage in lobbying; and

WHEREAS, Lago Vista elected officials and citizens have the ability to advocate for and against legislation through their state elected officials, in-person at the capitol, through phone calls, emails and discussions with capitol staff and members; and

WHEREAS, while the City of Lago Vista supports transparency and fiscal responsibility, it recognizes that smaller municipalities rely on organizations such as the Texas Municipal League (TML) to provide crucial legal, educational, and advocacy resources that benefit local governance; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that small and mid-sized cities retain access to legislative analysis, legal interpretations, and advocacy on infrastructure, water, and public safety issues that impact municipalities like Lago Vista

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAGO VISTA, TEXAS that it supports HB 1189 under the condition that organizations like TML may continue to:

1. Provide legal guidance and technical assistance to municipalities.
2. Educate legislators on the impact of proposed bills without engaging in lobbying activities.
3. Respond to legislative requests for factual information and data analysis.
4. Advocate for municipal interests through non-lobbying means, such as research publications and committee testimony when requested by lawmakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Lago Vista urges the Texas Legislature to clarify implementation guidelines for HB 1189 to ensure cities are not left without a voice in critical policy discussions affecting municipal governance

PASSED AND APPROVED this 6th day of February, 2025.



Kevin Sullivan, Mayor

ATTEST:



Maria Franco, City Secretary

