

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS OPPOSING SENATE BILL 715 IN THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, for nearly 100 years Home Rule municipalities in Texas have enjoyed annexation powers; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 715 and various companion bills filed in the Texas House of Representatives greatly diminish annexation authority bestowed upon Texas municipalities decades ago; and

**WHEREAS**, this bill would require voters in an area to be annexed to vote favorably for an annexation prior to its occurrence; and

**WHEREAS**, such a measure lacks regard for municipalities which have annexation authority over industrial districts in which no persons reside; and

**WHEREAS**, without the possibility of annexation such businesses and industries would be unwilling to enter into Industrial District Agreements – agreements which allow businesses to pay a rate less than if they were annexed into a City (“payments in lieu of taxes”), while saving the City from having to provide municipal services such as police and fire protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Deer Park derives over \$11,000,000 in annual funding from its industrial district agreements, equating to nearly 30% of its General Fund revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, this loss of Industrial District Agreement revenue would cripple economic growth, dramatically reduce municipal services, and compromise the quality of life enjoyed by citizens in Deer Park;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS:**

**Section 1.** The City of Deer Park finds that the recitals above are correct and require action.

**Section 2.** The City of Deer Park finds that restricting our annexation authority would have a devastating financial impact to our General Fund revenues at the expiration of our present Industrial District Agreements. To that end, the City of Deer Park stands firmly opposed to any bill filed in the Texas Senate and/or Texas House of Representatives which has a detrimental impact on municipal annexation authority.

**Section 3.** The City of Deer Park hereby directs the City Secretary to send a copy of this Resolution to all Harris County State Representatives and State Senators along with

Governor Greg Abbott, Speaker of the House Joe Straus, and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 18th day of April, 2017.

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Jerry L. Mouton, Jr.  
Mayor

Attest:

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Shannon Bennett  
City Secretary