RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF UTPA & UTB UNIVERSITY MERGER

WHEREAS, on December 6th, 2012, the University of Texas System announced plans to merge the University of Texas Pan American, The University of Texas Brownsville and the Regional Academic Health Center at a University of Texas Board of Regents meeting; University of Texas Brownsville President Juliet V. Garcia and University of Texas Pan American President Robert Nelsen expressed their support of the proposed merger; and

WHEREAS, both University presidents presented to the board the various benefits the merger of both universities would have for the Rio Grande Valley, a vote was put to the Board of Regents in which the approval of the merger was passed to create a new university that includes a medical school; and

WHEREAS, upon the merger of both Universities, the new University would be eligible to include a medical school in its curriculum, thereby making the university a top-tier place for education in the Rio Grande Valley. The new University would also serve as a bridge between Texas and the United States with Mexico and Latin America; and

WHEREAS, upon the approval of the merger by the University of Texas Board of Regents for the merger, the proposal still requires approval by the Texas legislature; a bill will be submitted and Texas Lawmakers will meet in January 2013 in Austin for its legislation from a bill to law.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners’ Court hereby recognizes and supports the merger of the University of Texas Brownsville and University of Texas Pan American for the creation of a new University to include a medical school that will no doubt benefit Hidalgo and surrounding counties for generations to come.

Approved this 18th day December, 2012.

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RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

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JOEL QUINTANILLA
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

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HECTOR “TITO” PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

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JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

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JOSEPH PALACIOS
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

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Attest: ARTURO GUIJARDO, JR.
County Clerk