RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Deteriorating conditions in the credit markets have 2 severely diminished the ability of cities to access traditional sources of funding for projects that meet critical local needs; 3 consequently, many municipal projects today are in jeopardy or are 4 5 being delayed, with prospects for their future realization highly uncertain; and 6 WHEREAS, Municipal projects provide important, effective 7 economic stimulus and are worthy of partnership with the federal 8 9 government; civic projects instantly create and cause the retention of multiple thousands of jobs in many different industries; city 10

12 create a leveraging of mutual interests and maximum economic

benefit for the greater community; many city projects are transit 13

projects often include partnerships with the private sector that

14 oriented, which spurs additional economic benefit; moreover, when

projects involve the enhancement or development of public mass 15

16 transit, they result in reduced highway congestion, reduced air

pollution, and reduced dependence on foreign oil; and 17

18 WHEREAS, Projects supported by municipal bonds are vetted

locally, approved in elections by local voters, and administered 19

20 locally, conditions that promote the highest level of transparency

21 and accountability; and

11

WHEREAS, Recently passed amendments to the Troubled Assets 22

23 Relief Program (TARP) legislation that are contained in H.R. 384,

Section 402, clarify the authority of the U.S. Treasury regarding 24

- 1 municipal securities; exercising the authority to directly
- 2 purchase such bonds, and/or provide credit enhancements for them,
- 3 would provide an opportunity to realize immediate, significant
- 4 contributions to our economic recovery; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Directly purchasing municipal securities at
- 6 appropriate interest rates, or providing credit enhancements that
- 7 allow cities access to traditional market interest rates for bonds,
- 8 would give the federal government the opportunity to be repaid,
- 9 with interest, the entire sum it furnishes through the partnership;
- 10 in addition, providing this relief in the municipal credit markets
- 11 would result in a significant tax reduction for local taxpayers in
- 12 the form of dramatically reduced publicly funded interest costs;
- 13 and
- 14 WHEREAS, Working together to construct an efficient
- 15 application of the authorization provided in H.R. 384, Section 402,
- 16 would greatly enhance our country's progress toward economic
- 17 recovery; now, therefore, be it
- 18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
- 19 Legislature hereby respectfully urge U.S. Secretary of the Treasury
- 20 Timothy Geithner to implement a plan that will allow cities
- 21 affected by the credit crisis to access traditional market interest
- 22 rates for bonds; and, be it further
- 23 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward an official copy of
- 24 this resolution to the U.S. secretary of the treasury.

Mallory Caraway

Straus Gattis Menendez Allen Geren Merritt Alonzo Giddings Miklos Alvarado Gonzales Miller of Comal Anchia Gonzalez Toureilles Miller of Erath Guillen Anderson Moody Gutierrez Aycock Morrison Berman Hamilton Naishtat Hancock Oliveira Bohac Bolton Hardcastle Olivo Harless Bonnen Orr Branch Harper-Brown Ortiz, Jr. Brown of Kaufman Hartnett Otto Brown of Brazos Heflin Parker Burnam Hernandez Patrick Paxton Button Herrero Hilderbran Callegari Peña Castro Hochberg Phillips Chavez Hodge Pickett Chisum Homer Pierson Christian Pitts Hopson Howard of Fort Bend Quintanilla Cohen Coleman Howard of Travis Raymond Cook Hughes Riddle Corte Hunter Rios Ybarra Ritter Crabb Isett Rodriguez Craddick Jackson Creighton Jones Rose Keffer Sheffield Crownover Darby Kent Shelton King of Parker Smith of Tarrant Davis of Harris King of Taylor Smith of Harris Davis of Dallas King of Zavala Deshotel Smithee Driver Kleinschmidt Solomons Kolkhorst Dukes Strama Dunnam Kuempel Swinford Laubenberg Dutton Taylor Legler Thibaut Edwards Eiland Leibowitz Thompson Eissler Lewis Truitt Elkins Lucio III Turner of Tarrant England Madden Turner of Harris Vaught Farabee Maldonado Mallory Caraway Veasey Farias Farrar Marquez Villarreal Vo Fletcher Martinez Martinez Fischer Walle Flores

Weber

Woolley

Zerwas

McCall

McClendon

McReynolds

Flynn

Frost

Gallego

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1138 was adopted by the House on April 9, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House