

**Resolution to Declare a Good Cause Exception for House Bill 3
Armed Security Officer Requirement**

WHEREAS, the new Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code requires the board of trustees of each school district to determine the appropriate number of armed security officers for each district campus;

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814(a) of the Texas Education Code requires the board to ensure that at least one armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each district campus;

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that at least one armed security officer at each campus be a commissioned peace officer, namely a school district peace officer; a school resource officer; or a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel under Section 37.081 of the Texas Education Code;

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814(c) of the Texas Education Code provides that if the board of trustees of a school district is unable to comply with this section, the board may claim a good cause exception if the district's noncompliance is due to the availability of funding or qualified personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Ector County Independent School District hereby determines that the School District is unable to ensure by September 1, 2023 that at least one armed security officer, as defined by law, is present during regular school hours at each district campus;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees determines that:

The District's noncompliance is due to lack of available funding. The District is currently operating under a deficit budget and is not able to finance hiring enough peace officers to immediately and fully comply with Section 37.0814(a) of the Texas Education Code; AND

The District's noncompliance is also due to lack of available qualified personnel. There are not enough qualified officers available to fill the additional required positions at this time. The vacancies for District Police Officers are posted on the District's website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees determines that it intends to place at least one commissioned district peace officer at each campus when sufficient funding becomes available and when there are enough qualified officers available to hire for the additional positions.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees, having claimed a good cause exception, will develop and document an alternative standard with which the District is able to comply, in accordance with Sections 37.0814(d) and (e) of the Texas Education Code.

Adopted this 15th day of August, 2023, by the Board of Trustees.

Presiding officer's signature: _____

Secretary's signature: _____