

POSITION STATEMENT – HOUSE BILL 741

1. **HB 741 references that the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners** would be elected by the members of the Board of Commissioners.
 - **RCDC’s position** has always been that the **Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners** shall be elected **FULL TIME** and by the residents of Rockdale County and not by the Board of Commissioners.
2. **HB 741 references that candidates for Commissioners** shall reside in each of the districts provided for in subsection (a.2) of this section, but the commissioners shall be elected by the voters of the entire county voting at the elections provided for hereinafter. Commissioners shall be residents of the district from which they are elected for at least one year prior to their qualification for election. Further it references that in subsection (a2) Rockdale County shall be divided into Five Districts.
 - **RCDC’s position** has always been that Candidates for County Commissioner shall:
Qualify;
Run for office;
Be elected; and
Serve Countywide. **We Do Not Support Districts!**
3. **HB 741 introduces a County Manager form of government** and as currently written, outlines an extremely broad and overreaching authority for the county manager with minimal oversight by the Board of Commissioners.
 - **RCDC proposed a county manager/county administrator as an administrative managerial role.** RCDC’s presentation outlined the duties and responsibilities of the county manager/or county administrator role providing for oversight and accountability. We based our proposal recommendation on thorough research of Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) definitions, comparing other county governments as well as research of current Rockdale County Government operations.
4. **HB 741 calls for an Ethics Board.**
 - **RCDC’s position** is that the creation of the Ethics Board as written in the Bill will cause the County to raise taxes to pay for the cost. We suggested an Oversight Board that monitors the activities of the BOC. An Ethics Board will punish the BOC for wrong-doing, **RCDC proposed a Financial Accountability Oversight Board which will attempt to stop the wrong- doing or activities related to poor judgment before it occurs.**