



**Item From Council**  
**CITY OF AUSTIN**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.:** 34  
**AGENDA DATE:** Thu 02/12/2004  
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**Item From Council**

**Posting Language:** Approve a resolution expressing concern over the effects and implementation of the consolidation of state agencies mandated by House Bill 2292, recently passed by the 78th Legislature.

**Proposed meeting date:** THU 02/12/2004

**Sponsor:** Council Member Brewster McCracken

**Co-sponsor 1:** Council Member Danny Thomas      **Co-sponsor 2:** Council Member Raul Alvarez

**Date by which the City Manager is requested to report back to Council:**

**Draft Resolution/Ordinance attached:**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 04**

**WHEREAS**, HB 2292, signed into law on June 10, 2003, mandates the reorganization of twelve state Health and Human Services agencies and functions into five new agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Transition Legislative Oversight Committee (TLOC) created to oversee the consolidation of the agencies has been active in rapidly accomplishing the reorganization; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of the reorganization if done hurriedly and without due deliberation has the potential to result in the loss of millions of dollars of federal funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the reorganization under the current budget for the biennium will most likely result in millions of dollars of cuts in funding for the social services that have traditionally served the neediest of the poor, the medically underserved, the disabled and the aged; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts are underway to cut services and reduce expenditures by privatizing operations heretofore run by the state, which efforts will result in a lower quality and quantity of care and will also result in the displacement or unemployment of many employee residents of Central Texas who contribute to the vitality of the local economy through their jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the consolidation process has resulted in a hurried schedule of hearings that has not facilitated attendance by those likely to be affected and most able to provide comment and testimony to allow for a careful, studied and deliberate consolidation; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
AUSTIN:**

1. That the TLOC call for public meetings in a manner that allows for a greater opportunity for affected and interested persons and organizations to attend and provide comment and testimony.

2. That the impact of reductions and privatizations be carefully examined in the impact to employees and local economies so that damaging effects may be minimized or eliminated.
3. That any proposed measures of drastic impact be delayed so that alternatives may be examined and proposed.
4. That client services be placed in the category of highest priority.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Shirley A. Brown  
City Clerk

MFGC GLA:RCA 2004-4470 HB2292:Raul Calderon:hjl