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RUSK COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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**JOEL HALE**  
County Judge  
Rusk County

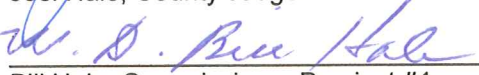
**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-07-01-CC**  
**ADVOCATING HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY**  
**AND OTHER MEDICAL TREATMENTS AND THERAPY FOR**  
**TBI AND PTSD**

- WHEREAS,** the 'signature wounds' of Iraq and Afghanistan are Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and are significant health issues for Texas Veterans returning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and Operation New Dawn (OND); and
- WHEREAS,** the effects of these conditions are usually long lasting and often life threatening (frequently suicide), and currently there are no definitive medical treatments for TBI and the treatments being provided today are only palliative drugs and/or counseling; and
- WHEREAS,** several, well documented, more curative therapies are available, including Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT), that offer additional, alternative, curative ways to restore affected Veterans lives and minds; and
- WHEREAS,** numerous studies have demonstrated that the untreated, lingering effects of these injuries adversely impact the returned Veterans' lives, resulting frequently in destroyed families, drug and alcohol use, unemployment, mental illness, incarceration, and homelessness; and
- WHEREAS,** these results show up in society and communities as increased unemployment rates, public health care treatment costs, mental illness costs, alcohol and drug treatment costs, family breakups, and disruptive lives; and
- WHEREAS,** neither the Veterans Administration, Military medicine, nor Medicare will reimburse Medical Practitioners for their efforts to help these Veterans.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rusk County Commissioners Court urges the Texas State Government to provide appropriate funding and focus to provide results orientated, evidence based, proven treatment, including Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for returning Texas Veterans that suffer the residual, aftereffects of TBI and PTSD.

**APPROVED AND PASSED IN COMMISSIONERS COURT,** this 2nd day of JULY 2014

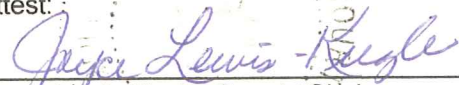
  
Joel Hale, County Judge

  
Bill Hale, Commissioner Precinct #1

  
Mike Pepper, Commissioner Precinct #2

  
Freddy Swann, Commissioner Precinct #3

  
Harold Howell, Commissioner Precinct #4

Attest:  
  
Joyce Lewis-Kugle, County Clerk