



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Mike Land, City Manager

**Date:** February 23, 2021

**Reference:** Community Advocacy Resolution

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During the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature in 2019, Senate Bill 29 threatened to prevent local and regional economic development organizations and coalitions from hiring professional lobbyists if they receive public funds from a city, county, river authority, public hospital board, community college, emergency service district, special district, economic development coalition, or school district. This legislation would have also prevented any local government funds from being used to directly hire professional lobbyists. This legislation was misleadingly promoted as “taxpayer protection” and it was defeated in the Texas House by a solid bipartisan majority vote, but another attempt to pass such legislation has already been filed for the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session: SB 234 (Hall) and its companion, HB 749 (Middleton).

The Coppell City Council supports community advocacy efforts that assist communities to retain the right to be on equal footing when the merits of state policies that affect local communities are debated at the state Capitol.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of the Resolution.