State of Texas	§	Court Order
Collin County	§	2026-1017-09-14
Commissioners Court	§	

A resolution of the Collin County Commissioners Court of Collin County Texas, Supporting State Legislation To Grant Texas Counties Local Authority To Regulate Unreasonable Noise, Sound Frequencies and Continuous Industrial Acoustic Emissions In unincorporated Areas

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WHEREAS, Texas counties are political subdivisions of the State of Texas possessing only those regulatory powers expressly granted by the Texas Constitution and the Texas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, under current Texas statutory law, incorporated municipalities possess broad powers to enact decibel standards, enforce quiet hours, and regulate continuous industrial acoustic emissions within their corporate limits and extraterritorial jurisdictions (ETJ); and

WHEREAS, county governments in Texas lack adequate statutory authority under the Texas Local Government Code to establish and enforce objective noise standards and abatement measures in unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, Collin County continues to experience extraordinary growth and rapid economic development, resulting in residential subdivisions and rural homesteads being sited directly adjacent to high-impact commercial developments, intensive entertainment venues, and large-scale data centers operating continuous 24/7 industrial HVAC cooling systems, chillers, and backup generation; and

WHEREAS, continuous, high-volume, and low-frequency tonal noise emissions generated by industrial operations and data centers in unincorporated areas can create chronic acoustic distress, structural resonance, and sleep disruption for neighboring residents, significantly impairing private property rights and quiet enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, granting permissive, local-option authority to county commissioners courts would empower Collin County to establish objective, common-sense sound limits and frequency thresholds that protect residential property owners while preserving agricultural protections and accommodating economic development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS, that:

SECTION 1. The Collin County Commissioners Court respectfully urges the Texas Legislature to enact legislation amending Chapter 240 of the Texas Local Government Code to grant Texas counties permissive authority to adopt, implement, and enforce reasonable noise and sound frequency abatement policies in unincorporated areas.

SECTION 2. Such legislative authority should provide practical enforcement tools, objective decibel standards (including distinct day and night thresholds), measures addressing low-frequency and continuous tonal hums from data centers and commercial infrastructure, and balanced exemptions for agricultural operations, wildlife/forestry management, lawful firearm use, and routine emergency operations.

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SECTION 3. The County Administrator and designated county representatives are directed to include this policy priority in Collin County's official Legislative Agenda and transmit copies of this Resolution to the Collin County Legislative Delegation, the Governor of Texas, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, and the Texas Association of Counties (TAC).

Chris Hill, County Judge

Darrell Hale, Commissioner, Pct 3

Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct 1

Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct 4

Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct 2

ATTEST: Stacey Kemp, County Clerk