

RESOLUTION

(#2025-11)

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UPSHUR COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS, SUPPORTING IMMEDIATE FEDERAL ACTION TO COMBAT THE THREAT OF THE NEW WORLD SCREWWORM FLY TO LIVESTOCK, WILDLIFE, AND THE RURAL ECONOMY.

WHEREAS, the New World screwworm fly (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) poses an imminent and severe threat to the livestock, wildlife, and economic stability of Texas, with projections indicating its arrival in Texas by July 2025 and movement to the Canadian border by the end of the summer;

WHEREAS, the Texas Farm Bureau reports that agriculture contributes nearly \$868 billion to the Texas economy with over 12.2 million cattle, 655,000 sheep, and 786,000 goats, making Texas the leading state in livestock production;

WHEREAS, Texas is home to a vast wildlife population including over 5.1 million whitetail deer, 150,000 mule deer, and numerous exotic and endangered species such as the scimitar oryx, addax antelope, dama gazelle, and rhinoceroses, which are critical to both conservation and the rural economy;

WHEREAS, rural economics rely heavily on hunting and wildlife management, generating over \$4.6 billion annually from deer hunting alone, supporting 24,000 jobs, and adding \$446 million in tax revenue;

WHEREAS, the spread of the New World screwworm fly threatens not only animal health but also land values, rural employment, and decades of conservation success, potentially resulting in hundreds of billions of dollars in economic losses;

WHEREAS, current treatment options are severely limited, with the Sterile Insect Technique unavailable due to insufficient capacity at the USDA's Panama facility, leaving macrocyclic lactones (such as Ivermectin, Doramectin, Eprinomectin, Abamectin and Selamectin) as the only viable solution;

WHEREAS, livestock feed manufacturers in Texas are prepared to incorporate Ivermectin dry premix into livestock and wildlife feeds to curb the infestation, but are currently unable to do so due to lack of FDA and USDA authorization for access to the dry premix used in other government programs;

WHEREAS, urgent federal leadership and authorization is required to prevent catastrophic loss to the economy, environment, and public trust in rural management;

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

That the Upshur County Commissioners Court urgently calls upon the President of the United States and ALL State and Federal Officials to:

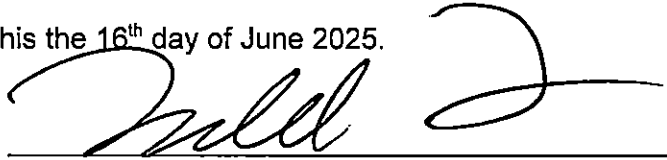
- Authorize the immediate production and distribution of millions of doses of Ivermectin dry premix for use by livestock feed manufacturers.
- Mobilize and convert existing military or federal facilities to breed sterile New World Screwworm flies, ensuring operational readiness within two weeks.

That this Court further urges the FDA and USDA to expedite emergency approval for feed manufacturers to access and utilize Ivermectin dry premix in livestock and wildlife feeds across the affected regions.

That a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, FDA Commissioner, and all members of the Texas congressional delegations.


That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 16th day of June 2025.


TODD TEFTELLER, Upshur County Judge


GENE DOLLE, Commissioner, Pct. 1


DUSTIN NICHOLSON, Commissioner, Pct. 2


MICHAEL ASHLEY, Commissioner, Pct. 3


JAY W. MILLER, Commissioner, Pct. 4