

## RESOLUTION 43-2010

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BENSON, ARIZONA, VOICING BORDER SECURITY CONCERNS TO THE STATE OF ARIZONA AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS VARIOUS FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES AND HEREBY REQUESTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO SECURE ARIZONA'S BORDERS AND PROTECT ITS PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL AND CITIZENS FROM CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.**

WHEREAS, it is recognized that southeastern Arizona is comprised of many communities such as Cochise County, Benson, Bisbee, Douglas, Huachuca City, Sierra Vista, Tombstone, Willcox, Graham County, Pima, Safford, Thatcher, Greenlee County, Clifton, Duncan, Santa Cruz County, Nogales, Patagonia and the San Carlos Apache Tribe; and

WHEREAS, these communities have seen marked increases in trespass, human and narcotics trafficking, burglary, assault, and recently a murder resulting from an unsecured border; and

WHEREAS, Border Patrol agents in service in this region have declined significantly; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government is best suited due to their vast resources and as empowered by Federal Law to regulate and secure our international border with Mexico. A comprehensive Federal plan can serve as the ideal mechanism for enhanced National Border Security. Border Security should be recognized as the imperative catalyst for economic growth. The lack of border security have been detrimental to economic growth and have added to the current strain in international relations to our neighbors in the State of Sonora and the Country of Mexico, as a whole.

WHEREAS, these Southeastern Arizona communities do not have permanent air support or air surveillance systems as a component of the current border security arrangement; and

WHEREAS, additionally, these communities/entities provide public safety, fire, and emergency medical services in the border region, and due to sporadic and often non-existent radio and cellular phone service, do so at risk of injury to personnel responding to Federal border security problems; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the circumstances expressed above, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens in the border region should be regarded as a priority for all Federal and State Agencies; and

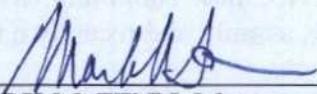
WHEREAS, protecting and securing our border is one of the principle responsibilities of the United States Government. In a past September 11 world, the mission of the customs service and the Department of Homeland Security has changed from collecting duties and tariffs to prevention of terrorism. Despite the change in duties, the southern border remains largely unsecured; and

WHEREAS, border communities bear the burden of costs and expenditures as a result of apprehending and detaining border bandits and criminals. Recognizing the limited local resources it is readily apparent that there is a desperate need to improve our border security. The lack of border security causes a depletion of local law enforcement resources as well as and causing drastic economic growth repercussions to the border region; and

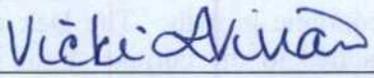
WHEREAS, the border is clearly a dynamic economic region that enhances all aspects of social, economic, commercial and cultural values of Arizona and the nation. Without the support of the State of Arizona and the United States Government in securing our border, Arizona will be at a physical and economic security disadvantage.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona that it hereby voices border security concerns to the State of Arizona and the United States Government as well as various Federal and State Agencies and hereby requests additional resources to secure Arizona's borders and protect its public safety personnel and citizens from criminal activities.

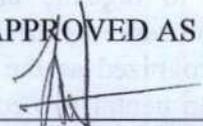
PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BENSON, ARIZONA this 14th day of June, 2010.

  
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MARK M. FENN, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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VICKI L. VIVIAN, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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MICHAEL J. MASSEE, City Attorney