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**Bexar County Democratic Party Chair Monica Alcantara Releases Statement
Regarding Bexar County Democrats Endorsement of City Charter Amendments**

BEXAR COUNTY (September 21, 2018)—Bexar County Democratic Party Chair Monica Alcantara released the following statement:

Yesterday, a press conference was held at the Bexar County Democratic Headquarters to announce the endorsement of the proposed amendments to the San Antonio City Charter by certain members of the Bexar County Democratic Party (BCDP).

This endorsement has created serious concerns among a significant number of members of the BCDP County Executive Committee (CEC) and Democratic elected officials and candidates. Although the proposal to endorse the City Charter Amendments passed at the August CEC meeting, a majority of the 263 precinct chairs who currently compose the CEC were not present and did not vote.

The endorsement of the amendments—launched by the San Antonio Professional Firefighters’ Union—is particularly concerning because the union has publicly endorsed 21 Republican candidates running in Bexar County, including top Republican elected officials Governor Greg Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, and Attorney General Ken Paxton. The union has also endorsed Republican Congressman Will Hurd for reelection—especially troubling to Democrats given the district’s “battleground” status. All of these Republicans are being challenged this November by Democratic candidates who are being endorsed by the BCDP. The endorsement of these charter amendments joins the BCDP with the Firefighters’ Union during an election cycle when they are actively working to elect Republican candidates and working against our goals to “turn Texas blue”.

To be clear, the primary goal of the Bexar County Democratic Party is to support Democratic candidates up and down the ballot who support fair and livable wages for all workers, healthcare for all citizens as a right of the American people, policies that support a strong public education system and equal pay for women. Historically, the BCDP has remained impartial in non-partisan referendums and local bond issues for this very reason.

Due to the numerous calls I have received from members of the BCDP since yesterday's press conference, I will be recommending that the proposal to endorse the charter amendments be revisited at the next meeting of the CEC.

As we approach the midterms, BCDP encourages every citizen of voting age to get registered today to vote in the upcoming midterms this November 6th. The last day to register to vote this election cycle is October 9th. Early voting begins October 22nd and Election Day is November 6th.
