A Resolution in Support of H.R. 4466, The North Texas Reservoir Approval Act
March 16, 2016

WHEREAS, the growth rate in North Texas is not supported by our state’s limited water resources. The future economic development of this state depends on the ability to properly address the water needs of citizens and businesses, as well as provide upgrades and repairs to water infrastructure systems; and

WHEREAS, to prepare for this projected growth and ensure continued reliable service to all, the North Texas Municipal Water District is pursuing several strategies to help water supplies keep pace with the region’s growing needs. The Lower Bois d’Arc Creek Reservoir is one of these new sources; and

WHEREAS, work on the Lower Bois d’Arc Creek Reservoir began eight years ago with the effort to secure the Section 404 permit for the construction of the reservoir through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality also conducted an extensive study and issued the first uncontested water rights permit in Texas in 50 years. The EPA initially agreed in 2007 to the assessment methods used to evaluate the impact of the reservoir on forested wetlands, but then reversed that decision in 2010 and asked for further testing, delaying the project even more; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 4466, introduced by Congressman Sam Johnson, would exempt the Lower Bois d’Arc Creek Reservoir Project from the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, thus allowing the permitting and construction on the reservoir to move forward while ensuring that water pumped from the reservoir will still comply with all state water quality regulations and all state and federal drinking water regulations; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 4466 will help to ensure that North Texas will have the necessary water supply needed by the year 2020; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Plano Chamber of Commerce supports H.R. 4466 and encourages passage by the House and Senate.

2016 Board Chair
Plano Chamber of Commerce

President & CEO
Plano Chamber of Commerce