

***A Resolution***  
**of the Anderson County, Texas Republican Party Executive  
Committee to**  
***Censure***  
**Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, HD8.**

We, the Members of the Republican Party Executive Committee of Anderson County, Texas, by not less than two-thirds vote of those Members present, do hereby make the following findings of fact and pass and approve the Resolutions included herein.

We take these actions as the result of actions taken or omissions committed by Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook in contravention of the Principles of the Republican Party of Texas Platform of 2016, during the biennium commencing March 1, 2017 and ending August 29, 2017, pursuant to the Republican Party of Texas General Rules for All Conventions and Meetings, Rule 44.

**Act or Omissions Against the Sanctity of Life**

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 948 85(R), the Abolition of Abortion in Texas Act thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 138 85(R), An Act Relating to Partial-birth Abortions and Dismemberment Abortions thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature Special Session failed to hold a hearing for HJR49 85(R), A Joint Resolution Proposing a Constitutional Amendment Guaranteeing the Right to Life of Unborn Children and Prohibiting Abortion to the Fullest Extent Possible Under Law, Act thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature Special Session held in his possession HB14 85(1), Relating to Prohibiting Certain Transactions between a Governmental Entity and an Abortion Provider or Affiliate of the Provider for **17 days** before forwarding it to the Calendars Committee thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook within the course and scope of his duties as the Texas State Representative of House District 8 on May 19th, 2017, moved and voted to table filed Amendment 22 to SB 8 85(R) Relating to Certain Prohibited Abortions and the Treatment and Disposition of a Human Fetus, Human Fetal Tissue, and Embryonic and Fetal Tissue Remains; Creating a Civil Cause of Action; Imposing a Civil Penalty; Creating Criminal Offenses, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature Special Session failed to hold a hearing for at least twenty-three (23) other Pro-Life Bills, described fully in Addendum I to this Resolution, which is incorporated for all purposes, thereby obstructing the passage of these Acts which were identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook within the course and scope of his duties as the Texas State Representative of House District 8 on May 19th, 2017, during the consideration of Amendment 22 to SB 8 85(R) Relating to Certain Prohibited Abortions and the Treatment and Dsposition of a Human Fetus, Human Fetal Tissue, and Embryonic and Fetal Tissue Remains; Creating a Civil Cause of Action; Imposing a Civil Penalty; Creating Criminal Offenses after invoking the name of GOD, stated *“I'm not here to tell you that we should force somebody to go to term or not go to term. I'm here to tell you there are times when we need to let people figure this out on their own.....and this is one of those times. I'm asking this body to move to table this amendment.”* This statement and subsequent vote by Representative Cook was in support of Partial Birth Abortion of Infants with Genetic Anomalies in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #2, and #4.

### **Acts or Omissions against Religious Liberty**

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of SB 893 85(R) Relating to the Protection of Religious Beliefs and Moral Convictions Regarding Marriage thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of SB 1536 85(R) Relating to the Ability of a Child-placing Agency to Decline to provide Services or Accept a Referral from the Department of Family and Protective Services on the Basis of Sincerely Held Religious Beliefs thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of SB 2096 85 (R) Relating to the Regulation of the Conduct of Certain Counseling Professions thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 1813 (R) Relating to Issuing a Marriage License and Conducting a Marriage Ceremony thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and,

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 1805 Relating to Protection of the Rights of Conscience for Child Welfare Services Providers thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 1923 85 (R) Relating to the Protection of Religious Beliefs and Moral Convictions Regarding Marriage thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 3856 85(R) Relating to the Regulation of the Conduct of Certain Counseling Professions thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 2779 85(R) Relating to Protecting Freedom of Conscience from Government Discrimination thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 2876 85(R) Relating to the Rights of Wedding Industry Professionals and their Employees in Connection with the Provision of Goods, Services, and Facilities that would Violate a Sincerely Held Religious Belief thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 3571 85(R) Relating to Civil Actions Based on and Local Governmental Punishment of a Person's Refusal to Violate the Person's Sincerely Held Religious Belief thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HCR 39 85(R) Supporting Prayers, including the Use of the Word "God," at Public Gatherings, and Displays of the Ten Commandments in Public Educational Institutions and Other Government Buildings thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

### **Acts or Omissions against Personal Privacy**

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB 1362 85(R) Relating to State Agency and Local Government Regulation of the Use of Multi-occupancy Private Spaces thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB38185(R) Relating to the Regulation of Certain Facilities of Political Subdivisions, including School Districts, and Open-enrollment Charter Schools thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, and #5; and

## **Acts or Omissions Supporting Illegal Immigration**

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook within the course and scope of his duties as the Texas State Representative of House District 8 voted against filed Amendment 11 to SB 485(R) Relating to the Enforcement by Campus Police Departments and Certain Local Governmental Entities of State and Federal Laws Governing Immigration and to Related Duties and Liability of Certain Persons in the Criminal Justice System; Providing a Civil Penalty; Creating a Criminal Offense, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, #4 and #8; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HB889 85(R) Relating to the Enforcement by Certain Governmental of State and Federal Laws Governing Immigration and to the Duties of Law Enforcement Agencies Concerning Certain Arrested Persons thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, #4 and #8; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature Special Session failed to hold a hearing for at least Thirty-Three (33) other Anti-Illegal Immigration Bills, described fully in Addendum II to this Resolution, which is incorporated for all purposes, thereby obstructing the passage of these Acts which were identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #3, #4 and #8; and,

## **Acts or Omissions in Furtherance of Big Government**

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature failed to hold a hearing of HJR84 85(R) Proposing a Constitutional Amendment Authorizing the Legislature to Provide for Legislative Review or Approval of State Agency Rules thereby obstructing the passage of the Act which was identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #4, and #9; and

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, within the course and scope of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature Special Session failed to hold a hearing for at least ten (10) other Anti-Big Government Bills, described fully in Addendum III to this Resolution, which is incorporated for all purposes, thereby obstructing the passage of these Acts which were identified as a legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principles #1, #4 and #9; and,

## **Unlawful Acts**

WHEREAS, Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook in contravention of his duties as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee of the 85th Legislature, on March 22nd, 2017 ordered the forcible removal of Amy Hedtke who was exercising rights accorded her by the Texas Open Meetings Act by recording a public, open meeting of that Committee, resulting in her unlawful arrest and detention, in contravention of Republican Party of Texas Platform 2016 Principle #1; and,



## Resolution

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Executive Committee of the Anderson County, Texas Republican Party, by a vote of 2/3rds of the members present, hereby CENSURE Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, pursuant to Texas Republican Party General Rules for Conventions and Meetings, for committing three (3) or more acts in contravention of the Republican Party of Texas Core Principles as enumerated in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Executive Committee of Anderson County, Texas Republican Party call upon the Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Texas to sustain this Resolution and to impose any and all sanctions, penalties, or punishments available upon Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, pursuant to Texas Republican Party General Rules for Conventions and Meetings, Rule 44.

## Adoption

This resolution adopted at a consent meeting of the Anderson County Republican County Executive Committee, one hundred per cent of the Anderson County Executive Committee present and one hundred per cent of the Anderson County Executive Committee voting in favor of adopting the Resolution.

Voting to adopt on this the \_\_\_\_ day of September, 2017.

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Arlene McReynolds  
Precinct Chair  
Secretary  
Acting Anderson County Chair

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Gay Bryant  
Precinct Chair

# Addendum I

## Additional Pro-Life Bills Obstructed by Chairman Cook

1. SB1602 -- Relating to reporting requirements by certain health care facilities for abortion complications; authorizing a civil penalty
2. SB258 -- Relating to the disposition of embryonic and fetal tissue remains; imposing a civil penalty.
3. SB415 -- Relating to a prohibition on the performance of dismemberment abortions; providing penalties; creating a criminal offense.
4. HB3544 -- Relating to prohibited state contracts with vendors that perform elective abortions, destructive embryonic stem cell research, or human cloning or that conduct research on human fetal tissue.
5. HB3542 -- Relating to the withdrawal or withholding of life-sustaining treatment from a pregnant patient; affecting the prosecution of a criminal offense.
6. HB3246 -- Relating to voluntary and informed consent to an abortion and actions to be taken by an abortion provider to prevent coerced abortions and human trafficking.
7. HB3248 -- Relating to prevention of coerced abortions and human trafficking; creating an offense.
8. HB2349 -- Relating to the filing of a fetal death certificate after an abortion.
9. HB2348 -- Relating to certificates of birth resulting in stillbirth, fetal death certificates, and the disposition of fetal remains; imposing administrative penalties.
10. HB2349 -- Relating to the filing of a fetal death certificate after an abortion.
11. HB1971-- Relating to providing information regarding perinatal hospice care and prohibiting discriminatory abortions; creating an administrative penalty, a civil remedy, and criminal offenses.
12. HB1902 -- Relating to prohibiting the investment of certain retirement system funds in publicly traded business entities that donate to Planned Parenthood.
13. HB1049 -- Relating to prohibited acts regarding abortion for a physician or applicant for a medical license.
14. HB612 -- Relating to voluntary and informed consent to an abortion and prevention of coerced abortions; providing penalties; creating an offense.
15. HB844 -- Relating to a prohibition on the performance of dismemberment abortions; providing penalties; creating a criminal offense.

16. HB948 -- Relating to prohibiting abortion and recognizing the rights, powers, and privileges of all unborn children at every stage of gestation from fertilization until birth; affecting criminal offenses and penalties
17. HB746 -- Relating to the medical accuracy of informational materials given to a woman seeking an abortion.
18. HB745 -- Relating to the waiting period before a physician may perform an abortion.
19. HB262 -- Relating to an exception from penalties for a physician's or health care professional's professional judgment in providing certain abortion services to patients.
20. HB87 -- Relating to the regulation of abortion procedures.
21. HB144 -- Relating to electronic reporting requirements for an abortion facility.
22. HJR123 -- Proposing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to life of unborn children and prohibiting abortion to the fullest extent possible.
- 23 HJR122 -- Proposing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to life of unborn children and prohibiting abortion to the extent authorized under federal constitutional law.

# Addendum II

## Additional Anti-Illegal Immigration Bills Obstructed by Chairman Cook

1. SB260 -- Relating to the abolishment of the Office of Immigration and Refugee Affairs and the Governor's Advisory Committee on Immigration and Refugees.
2. HB52 -- Relating to the enforcement of state and federal laws governing immigration and the duties of law enforcement agencies concerning arrested persons and certain persons lawfully detained.
3. HB315 -- Relating to a prohibition against the knowing employment of persons not lawfully present in the United States and the suspension of licenses held by certain employers for the knowing employment of those persons; authorizing a fee.
4. HB280 -- Relating to the proof of citizenship or lawful presence in the United States required for the issuance of a driver's license.
5. HB183 -- Relating to the repeal of certain provisions governing state and local enforcement of immigration laws and other provisions related to immigration law.
6. SB2094 -- Relating to establishment of the immigration authority delegation training grant program for local law enforcement agencies.
7. SB1018 -- Relating to the licensing of family residential centers by the Department of Family and Protective Services and the detention of certain juveniles.
8. SB764 -- Relating to accounting for costs incurred by this state as a result of the presence of persons who are not lawfully present in the United States.
9. HB2225 -- Relating to the licensing of family residential centers by the Department of Family and Protective Services and the detention of certain juveniles.
10. HB4208 -- Relating to designating English as the official language of this state.
11. HB3668 -- Relating to the proof of citizenship or lawful presence in the United States required for the issuance of a driver's license.
12. HB3792 -- Relating to a prohibition against the knowing employment of persons not lawfully present in the United States and the suspension of licenses held by certain employers for the knowing employment of those persons; authorizing a fee.

13. HB3698 -- Relating to the ineligibility of certain governmental entities that prohibit or discourage the enforcement of immigration laws to participate in and receive funds from the major events reimbursement program.
14. HB2522 -- Relating to a memorandum of understanding between this state and the United States Department of Homeland Security concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws.
15. HB2709 -- Relating to a study conducted by the Texas Education Agency on the financial costs of providing educational services to persons who are not lawfully present in the United States.
16. HB2191-- Relating to the eligibility of certain entities for grants awarded by the criminal justice division of the governor's office.
17. HB2280 -- Relating to the duties of a law enforcement agency regarding the immigration status of an arrested person and to the agency's enforcement of immigration detainers and of laws relating to immigration.
18. HB2042 -- Relating to an interstate compact on border security and immigration enforcement.
19. HB1453 -- Relating to requiring state contractors and political subdivisions of this state to participate in the federal electronic verification of employment authorization program, or E-verify, and authorizing the suspension of certain licenses held by private employers for the knowing employment of persons not lawfully present in this state; authorizing a fee.
20. HB581 -- Relating to the issuance of, eligibility for, and use of limited term personal identification certificates and driver's licenses.
21. HB754 -- Relating to the enforcement by certain governmental entities of state and federal laws governing immigration and to the duties of law enforcement agencies concerning certain arrested persons.
22. HB762 -- Relating to the enforcement by certain governmental entities of state and federal laws governing immigration.
23. HB765 -- Relating to requiring political subdivisions to participate in the federal electronic verification of employment authorization program or E-verify.
24. HB1344 -- Relating to protection for reporting the existence of certain immigration policies of a governmental entity.
25. HB1308 -- Relating to the enforcement by certain governmental entities of state and federal laws governing immigration and to the duties of law enforcement agencies concerning certain arrested persons.

26. HB124 -- Relating to the duties of a law enforcement agency regarding the immigration status of an arrested person and the enforcement of an immigration detainer.
27. HB1109 -- Relating to the enforcement by certain governmental entities of state and federal laws governing immigration.
28. HB611 -- Relating to the enforcement by certain governmental entities of state and federal laws governing immigration and to the duties of law enforcement agencies concerning certain arrested persons.
29. HB1222 -- Relating to the suspension of certain licenses held by private employers for the knowing employment of persons not lawfully present in this state; authorizing a fee.
30. HB921-- Relating to the duties of a law enforcement agency regarding the immigration status of an arrested person and the enforcement of an immigration detainer.
31. HB393 -- Relating to the determination of resident status of students by public institutions of higher education.
32. HB328 -- Relating to state and federal laws regarding immigrants or immigration, including the enforcement of those laws by certain governmental entities and the use of consular identity documents for certain purposes.
33. HB149 -- Relating to the enforcement by certain governmental entities of state and federal laws governing immigration.

# Appendix III

## Additional Anti-Big Government Bills Obstructed by Chairman Cook

1. HB3770 -- Relating to the creation of the Texas First Center to study and provide advice to the legislature on the effective use of state resources
2. HB3646 -- Relating to the appointment of the commissioner of agriculture.
3. HB2899 -- Relating to the regulation of discrimination by political subdivisions.
4. HB3387 -- Relating to a defense against a libel claim based on the claimant's status as a public official or public figure.
5. HB3388 -- Relating to certain limitations on a journalist's qualified privilege not to testify; creating a civil penalty.
6. HJR28 -- Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing legislative action at any time during a regular session on a bill that extends the existence of an agency, commission, or advisory committee following legislative review.
7. HJR109 -- Proposing a constitutional amendment allowing the voters to remove elected officials finally convicted of a felony from office by means of a recall election.
8. HB2789 -- Relating to the creation of a study group to study state unfunded mandates that affect counties.
9. HJR112 -- Proposing a constitutional amendment requiring certain persons or groups to report certain contributions and political expenditures.
10. HJR38 -- Proposing a constitutional amendment to limit the time that a person may serve as a member of the Texas Legislature.