



October 16, 2023

The Honorable Dade Phelan
Speaker of the House
P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768

Sent via Electronic Mail

Re: Suspension of House Parliamentarian Hugh Brady

Dear Speaker Phelan,

We request the immediate suspension of House Parliamentarian Hugh Brady from his official duties. Our concerns compel us to make a good faith report on potential conflicts of interest that call into question Mr. Brady's conduct as an officer of the Texas House of Representatives.

Mr. Brady is the named partner in the law firm Brady & Peavey PC. During the 88th Legislative Session, Harris County retained the firm for "matters pending before the 88th Session of the Texas Legislature." In other words, to dig up parliamentary errors to kill conservative legislation. The City of Austin also hired Brady & Peavey, and Mr. Peavey is a registered lobbyist.

Since Mr. Brady's role is similar to that of an umpire on the House Floor, his firm's financial incentive appears to create a conflict of interest. This connection raises the following red flags:

- Is Mr. Brady currently benefitting from the firm Brady & Peavey?
- Why is a private law firm using Mr. Brady's name, giving the appearance of an inside connection to attract business?
- How many other local governments used Brady & Peavey to kill conservative bills using parliamentary procedures as the City of Austin did with Rep. Troxclair's H.B. 3899?
- Can Mr. Brady expect future benefits from revenue his firm earned this year?

Even if none of the above were to exist, the optics alone of having a named partner of a law firm that has been commissioned to draft points of order be the adjudicator of those points of order creates at bare minimum a grotesque appearance of a conflict of interest that is of such magnitude its existence materially diminishes the integrity of the Texas House of Representatives, and this is sufficient reason alone to remove Mr. Brady from his responsibilities, especially since we have never seen you diverge from any opinion prepared for you by Mr. Brady.

Sincerely,



Rep. Steve Toth
House District 15



Rep. Brian Harrison
House District 10



Rep. Tony Tinderholt
House District 94