

A Resolution on Republican Party Unity in the Texas House of Representatives

WHEREAS Plank 213 of the 2024 Republican Party of Texas Platform states in part:

Texas Speaker of the House, House Committees, and Legislative Quorum:

In the Texas Legislature:

a) We oppose the use of pledge cards and call for Republican members to caucus after each November General Election to determine, by secure secret ballot, their candidate for Speaker and Speaker Pro Tempore. We also call for Republican members to vote as a unified body for their selected Speaker and Speaker Pro Tempore candidate when the Legislature convenes in regular session, provided that the individual selected in caucus for speaker publicly pledges to comply with the entirety of this plank; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Caucus of the Texas House of Representatives met on December 7, 2024, to nominate a candidate for Speaker in compliance with the Platform; and

WHEREAS, in the third vote, 26 Republican Representatives walked out of the Texas House Republican Caucus vote to deny quorum to the Caucus so that a candidate could be elected with Democratic votes; and

WHEREAS the Republican Caucus voted on the third ballot to support Representative David Cook of Tarrant County as their official nominee; and

WHEREAS Representative Dustin Burrows has offered extensive concessions to the Texas House Democratic Caucus to obtain approval for its members to vote for a Republican Speaker candidate other than Representative Cook, to stop Republican agenda items

such as school choice, ending taxpayer-funded lobbying, and ending the practice of appointing Democratic committee chairs; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Texas urges all Republican members of the Texas House of Representatives to publicly commit to vote for Representative David Cook for Speaker of the House; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Texas calls on Representative Dustin Burrows, and any other Republican Representatives other than Representative Cook who have active campaigns for Speaker of the House, to immediately suspend any campaign activities for Speaker of the House and to commit to support Representative Cook; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parker County Republican Party condemns any effort by Republican Representatives to ally with Democrats to elect a Speaker of the House who was not supported by the majority of the Republicans of the Texas House of Representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parker County Republican Party praises the Representatives who did not originally support the caucus election winner, but attended the final vote anyway in a spirit of unity, and encourages them to vote for Representative Cook for Speaker of the House; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a vote for any attempt to change the Rules of the Texas House of Representatives to allow a secret ballot vote in a floor vote for Speaker of the House will be interpreted by the Parker County Republican Party as an attempt to hide a vote with Democrats, and as such, will be considered equivalent to a vote for a Speaker supported by Democrats, which the Parker County Republican will consider a censurable act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any Republican member of the Texas House of Representatives who votes for a member other than the Republican Caucus nominee, Representative Cook, is subject to censure.