Resolution of the Gillespie County Republican Party Rebuking the Texas House of Representatives for the Election of Speaker Dustin Burrows with a Majority of Democrat Votes

WHEREAS, the Gillespie County Republican Party is committed to advancing the principles of the Republican Party of Texas, including limited government, individual liberty, and the representation of Republican voters' interests in House District 19 and across the state; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2025, the Texas House of Representatives elected Representative Dustin Burrows (R-Lubbock) as Speaker in a vote of 85-55, defeating Representative David Cook (R-Mansfield), with Burrows' victory secured by 49 Democrat votes and only 36 Republican votes; and

WHEREAS, the Texas House Republican Caucus, in accordance with its bylaws, met on December 7, 2024, and selected David Cook as its nominee for Speaker by a vote of 48-14, reflecting the will of the majority of Republican members, only for this decision to be undermined by a coalition of Democrats and a minority of Republicans on the House floor; and

WHEREAS, the reliance on a majority of Democrat votes to elect a Republican Speaker subverts the expectations of Gillespie County Republican voters, who elected a supermajority of 88 Republicans to the Texas House in 2024 to advance a conservative agenda, not to empower the Democrat minority; and

WHEREAS, this election process disenfranchises Republican voters by diluting the influence of their elected representatives and allowing the Democrat Party, which holds only 62 seats, to dictate the leadership of a chamber controlled by an 88-seat Republican majority; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Party of Texas and grassroots activists, including those in Gillespie County, have expressed outrage at this outcome, viewing it as a betrayal of the party's platform and a surrender of Republican governance to bipartisan compromise at the expense of conservative principles; and

WHEREAS, the election of Speaker Burrows with Democrat support threatens to perpetuate a legislative session marked by conflict and the stalling of Republican priorities, as warned by conservative leaders like Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, who has called for a conservative agenda including school vouchers and election integrity measures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gillespie County Republican Party hereby rebukes the Texas House of Representatives for the manner in which it elected Speaker Dustin Burrows on January 14, 2025, through a process that relied on a majority of Democrat votes, thereby disenfranchising the Republican voters of Gillespie County and Texas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body condemns the actions of the 36 Republican representatives who joined with 49 Democrats to override the Republican Caucus's selection of David Cook, undermining the will of the Republican majority and the voters who elected them; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gillespie County Republican Party calls upon Speaker Dustin Burrows to reject this tainted mandate, step aside, and allow for a new election that respects the Republican supermajority and restores the trust of Republican voters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gillespie County Republican Party urges all Texas House Republicans, including our own Representative Ellen Troxclair of District 19, to recommit to the Republican Party of Texas platform and resist any efforts by the Democrat minority to wield disproportionate influence over the chamber's leadership and agenda; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Speaker Dustin Burrows, Representative Ellen Troxclair, the Republican leadership of the Texas House, Governor Greg Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, Attorney General Ken Paxton, Republican Party of Texas Chair Abraham George, Republican Party of Texas Vice Chair D'Rinda Randall, and local media outlets, to ensure public awareness of our stance and demand for accountability.

ADOPTED this _13___ day of __May____, 2025, by the Gillespie County Republican Party Executive Committee.