

By: Cain

H.R. No. 132

R E S O L U T I O N

1 A RESOLUTION IMPEACHING CHRIS MORTON, DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE 230TH
2 JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS, AND PREFERRING ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT
3 AGAINST HIM

4 BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the State
5 of Texas, That Chris Morton, judge of the district court for the
6 230th Judicial District of Harris County, Texas, is impeached and
7 that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the
8 senate:

9 Articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of
10 Representatives of the State of Texas in the name of itself and of
11 all the people of the State of Texas against Chris Morton, judge of
12 the district court for the 230th Judicial District of Harris
13 County, Texas, in maintenance and support of its impeachment
14 against him.

15 ARTICLE I

16 While holding office as district judge for the 230th Judicial
17 District of Harris County, Texas, Chris Morton exceeded his
18 jurisdiction by entertaining writs of habeas corpus filed by, or
19 entering orders discharging certain state representatives from
20 arrest for breaking quorum, who were not detained or restrained in
21 their liberty in Harris County.

22 ARTICLE II

23 While holding office as district judge for the 230th Judicial
24 District of Harris County, Texas, Chris Morton violated separation

1 of powers, entertained political questions, disregarded explicit
2 constitutional authority, and demonstrated conduct unbecoming a
3 judge by allowing partisan interests to make rulings inconsistent
4 with governing law in relation to writs of habeas corpus filed by
5 multiple state representatives.

6 In all of this, Chris Morton has acted in a manner contrary to
7 the trust reposed in him as district judge and is guilty of
8 exceeding the authority of his office, violating the duties of his
9 office, ignoring the constitution, and violating certain
10 provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct. By such conduct he has
11 rendered himself unfit to hold office of judge of the district court
12 for the 230th Judicial District of Harris County, Texas, and he
13 warrants a trial and conviction, removal from office, and
14 disqualification from holding any future office in this state, and
15 the house of representatives, saving to itself the liberty to
16 exhibit additional articles of impeachment against Chris Morton at
17 any future date, if it decides any are necessary, requests that
18 Chris Morton be required to answer the articles of impeachment
19 against him.