

By: Hopper

H.R. No. 34

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Constitution, Article III, Section 5,  
2 requires members of the Texas House of Representatives to fulfill  
3 their legislative duties during sessions called by the Governor,  
4 including special sessions convened to address critical state  
5 matters; and

6 WHEREAS, A quorum, defined as two-thirds of the elected  
7 members of the Texas House of Representatives, is essential for  
8 conducting official legislative business, as established by Texas  
9 House Rule 5, Section 1, and Article III, Section 10 of the Texas  
10 Constitution; and

11 WHEREAS, On August 3, 2025, a significant number of  
12 Democratic members of the Texas House of Representatives  
13 deliberately absented themselves from the state to prevent the  
14 establishment of a quorum, thereby obstructing legislative  
15 proceedings during a special session called to address urgent  
16 issues, including congressional redistricting; and

17 WHEREAS, This intentional quorum break, publicly  
18 acknowledged by participating Democratic members, represents a  
19 willful neglect of their constitutional obligations and undermines  
20 the legislative process and the will of the people of Texas; and

21 WHEREAS, The position of Dean of the House, a prestigious  
22 role recognizing seniority and leadership, and committee  
23 chairmanships, which carry significant responsibilities for  
24 guiding legislative policy, require members to demonstrate

1   unwavering commitment to the duties of their office; and

2           WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives has the authority  
3   under the Texas Constitution, Art. 3, Section 11 and its rules to  
4   establish eligibility criteria for leadership roles and to impose  
5   consequences for actions that disrupt its ability to function,  
6   including the intentional breaking of quorum; now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the Texas House of Representatives of the 89th  
8   Legislature hereby:

9           1. Removes Eligibility for Dean of the House: All  
10   Democratic members who participated in the quorum break beginning  
11   on August 3, 2025, shall be deemed ineligible to serve as Dean of  
12   the House for the duration of their current term and any subsequent  
13   terms, as their actions demonstrate a failure to uphold the  
14   responsibilities befitting such an honor; and

15           2. Removes Eligibility for Committee Chairmanships  
16   and Vice-Chairmanships: All Democratic members who participated in  
17   the quorum break shall be ineligible to serve as chair or  
18   vice-chair of any standing, select, or special committee of the  
19   Texas House of Representatives for the duration of their current  
20   term, consistent with the House's authority to ensure that  
21   leadership roles are held by members committed to the legislative  
22   process; and be it further

23           3. Provides for Reinstatement of Eligibility: Any  
24   Democratic member rendered ineligible under this resolution may  
25   have their eligibility for the position of Dean of the House or  
26   committee chairmanships restored by a two-thirds vote of the Texas  
27   House of Representatives, upon a motion introduced by a member in

1 good standing and considered under House rules, provided the  
2 affected member demonstrates a renewed commitment to their  
3 legislative duties; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the Texas House of  
5 Representatives shall take all necessary actions to implement this  
6 resolution, including updating eligibility records, notifying  
7 affected members, and ensuring that committee assignments and  
8 leadership designations reflect these restrictions; and be it  
9 further

10       RESOLVED, That this resolution takes effect immediately upon  
11 its adoption by a majority vote of the Texas House of  
12 Representatives, in accordance with House rules and applicable  
13 state law.