



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 25-2320 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Resolution **Status:** Passed
File created: 3/31/2025 **In control:** Commissioners Court
On agenda: 4/10/2025 **Final action:** 4/10/2025

Title: Request by the Commissioner of Precinct 1 for approval of a resolution asking Governor Greg Abbott to immediately call the Special Election to fill the vacancy in the 18th Congressional District of Texas.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/10/2025	1	Commissioners Court		

Primary Department: Commissioner, Precinct 1
Primary Department Head/Elected Official: Rodney Ellis, Commissioner

Secondary Department: Choose an item.
Secondary Department Head/Elected Official:

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA
Type of Request: Resolution

Project ID (if applicable): N/A
Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A
MWBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A
Justification for 0% MWBE Participation Goal: N/A - Goal not applicable to request

Grant Indirect Costs Rate (if applicable): N/A
Justification for 0% Grant Indirect Costs Rate (if applicable): N/A - Not a grant item

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):
 Request by the Commissioner of Precinct 1 for approval of a resolution asking Governor Greg Abbott to immediately call the Special Election to fill the vacancy in the 18th Congressional District of Texas.

Background and Discussion:
 Congressman Sylvester Turner of the 18th Congressional District of Texas died unexpectedly on Tuesday, March 5, 2025 after serving two months of his first full-term in the United States House of Representatives. Governor Greg Abbott has not yet called a special election to fill the seat to return the Texas Congressional Delegation to

full voting power and strength. Governor Abbott has the sole authority to call a special election to fill Turner's seat for the rest of the two-year term. State law does not specify a deadline for the governor to order a special election. If called, the election must happen within two months of the announcement.

Leaders in the Texas House have requested that Governor Abbott call the special election. Without a Congressional representative, nearly 800,000 Texans remain voiceless at a pivotal moment for the 18th Congressional district and the nation.

Expected Impact:

If a special election is called, voters in the 18th Congressional District of Texas will select the person to complete the remainder of The Honorable Sylvester Turner's term and regain a voice and vote in the U.S. House. Harris County government will regain a federal partner to navigate federal funding and issues.

Alternative Options: The people of the 18th Congressional District remain without federal representation. Harris County has reduced access to federal resources and support in the United States Congress.

County Strategic Plan Goal: 1. Make Harris County safer and more just.

County Strategic Plan Objective: R: Enhance disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and resiliency.

Justice/Safety Initiative (Goal 1): Choose an item.

Infrastructure Initiative (Goal 2): Choose an item.

Economy Initiative (Goal 3): Choose an item.

Health Initiative (Goal 4): Choose an item.

Climate/Resilience Initiative (Goal 5): Choose an item.

Housing Initiative (Goal 6): Choose an item.

Additional notes related to the Strategic Plan: The United States Congress provides significant disaster recovery resources. Without full representation, Harris County may miss critical funding and support for ongoing disaster recovery.

Prior Court Action (if any): N/A

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken

Location:

Address (if applicable): N/A

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary				
Service Name	Current Fiscal Year Cost			Annual Fiscal Cost
	Labor	Non-Labor	Total	Recurring Expense

Funding Sources				
Existing Budget				
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Existing Budget	\$	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Request (<i>Requires Fiscal Review Request Form</i>)				
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Request	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Funding Sources	\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants - Proposed Budget (<i>To be filled out by Grants staff only</i>)				
	Labor	Non-Labor	Total	No. of Grant Years
Local Match Source - Existing Budget	\$	\$	\$	
Local Match Source - Additional	\$	\$	\$	
Grant Funds Applied for/Awarded	\$	\$	\$	
Personnel (<i>Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs</i>)				
Current Position Count for Selected	-	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-	-

Anticipated Court Date: 4/10/2025

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date): Click or tap to enter a date.

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Erica Lee Carter, Policy Director

Attachments (if applicable): Resolution to be submitted separately