



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 25-2320, **Version:** 1

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**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 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Texas.

**Background and Discussion:**

Congressman Sylvester Turner of the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional district and the nation.

**Expected Impact:**

If a special election is called, voters in the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Funding Sources</b>				
<b>Existing Budget</b>				
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Existing Budget	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Additional Budget Request (Requires Fiscal Review Request Form)</b>				
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$

Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Reque	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Grants - Proposed Budget</b> (To be filled out by Grants staff only)				
	<b>Labor</b>	<b>Non-Labor</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>No. of Grant Years</b>
Local Match Source - Existing Bu	\$	\$	\$	
Local Match Source - Additional	\$	\$	\$	
Grant Funds Applied for/Awa	\$	\$	\$	
<b>Personnel</b> (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)				
Current Position Count for Ser	-	-	-	-
Additional Positions Request	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Personnel</b>	-	-	-	-

**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