

Rep. Harrison Praises Senate, Calls on Speaker to Resign, and Demands Investigation

September 16, 2023– Waxahachie, TX: Today, State Representative Brian Harrison called on Speaker Dade Phelan to immediately step down following the Senate's acquittal of Attorney General Ken Paxton. He is also requesting the State Auditor to investigate how much tax money was wasted on the impeachment process.

Statement by Representative Brian Harrison:

I applaud the Texas Senate for conducting a fair and transparent trial and for reaching a verdict that was obviously correct given the shocking lack of evidence. The Texas House leadership, who mislead and pressured Republicans to join a Democrat effort to overturn an election, has, possibly irreparably, disgraced itself and tarnished the reputation of the entire Texas House.

The staggering incompetence and dishonest conduct on display by the leadership of the Texas House, the House General Investigating Committee, and Board of Managers must be repudiated.

Before trial, House leadership said, in writing, that Attorney General Paxton demonstrated a "shocking pattern of abuse and criminality" and "the evidence we found was conclusive." These were either outright lies, or the House Managers were so blinded by their desire to railroad a political enemy that they failed to take time to learn the truth. We now know that much of what was presented as fact by members of the House General Investigating Committee were demonstratable falsehoods. Yet many House Republicans relied on these assertions and voted to impeach.

The next generation is on the line; with every freedom and liberty being eroded.

Yet instead of securing the border, passing school choice, banning COVID mandates, fixing our grid and energy market, reining in emergency executive powers, cutting spending, ending property taxes, deregulating our economy, or stopping communist governments from buying Texas land, the Speaker of the House prioritized the impeachment of a recently re-elected Attorney General who has proven he is up to the most important task of our time: fighting the out of control federal government, which seeks to destroy our rights, our freedoms, our liberties, our state sovereignty, and the Constitution.

For that reason, in addition to his appointment of liberal Democrats to chair powerful committees and his presiding over the House while clearly unable to execute the duties of his office, I am calling on Speaker Dade Phelan to step down immediately.

Also, since the House General Investigating Committee claimed it was so outraged by a potential \$3 million appropriation to fund Paxton's settlement agreement that led to impeachment, and because I also care about protecting tax dollars, I am requesting an investigation by the State Auditor's office to determine exactly how much tax money was spent to conduct this impeachment in both chambers. Texans deserve to know exactly how much of their money was wasted on this disgraceful and fruitless exercise.

If "as goes Texas, so goes the nation," Texas must lead in the defense of liberty. If we do not, then, as President Ronald Reagan said in 1964, "history will record with the greatest astonishment that those who had the most to lose did the least to prevent its happening."

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See Also: Representative Harrison's <u>Tweet</u> on this matter.