

THE GOVERNOR

As required by Government Code, §2002.011(4), the *Texas Register* publishes executive orders issued by the Governor of Texas. Appointments and proclamations are also published. Appointments are published in chronological order. Additional information on documents submitted for publication by the Governor's Office can be obtained by calling (512) 463-1828.

Appointments

Appointments for May 11, 2020

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2021, James M. Mosley of Borger, Texas (replacing Anahid E. "Ana" Estevez of Amarillo, whose term expired).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Matthew L. "Matt" Ferrara, Ph.D. of Austin, Texas (Dr. Ferrara is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Michael S. "Shawn" Kennington of Pittsburg, Texas (Mr. Kennington is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Lindsay M. Kinzie of Fort Worth, Texas (replacing Jeffrey L. "Jeff" Oldham of Austin, whose term expired).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Eugene P. "Gene" Pack of Houston, Texas (Mr. Pack is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Jeffery D. "JD" Robertson of Wimberley, Texas (Major Robertson is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Andrea Sparks of Austin, Texas (Ms. Sparks is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Council, for a term to expire January 31, 2022, Hector L. Villarreal of Alice, Texas (Mr. Villarreal is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Governing Board of the Texas Indigent Defense Commission, for a term to expire February 1, 2022, Valerie Covey of Georgetown, Texas (Ms. Covey is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Governing Board of the Texas Indigent Defense Commission, for a term to expire February 1, 2022, Richard A. Evans of Bandera, Texas (Mr. Evans is being reappointed).

Appointed to the Governing Board of the Texas Indigent Defense Commission, for a term to expire February 1, 2022, Mary K. "Missy" Medary of Corpus Christi, Texas (Ms. Medary is being reappointed).

Appointed as presiding officer of the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority, for a term to expire February 1, 2022, Samuel D. "David" Deanda, Jr. of Mission, Texas (Mr. Deanda is being reappointed).

Appointed to the State Board for Educator Certification, for a term to expire February 1, 2025, Julia F. Moore of Pflugerville, Texas (replacing Laurie Kuper Bricker of Houston, whose term expired).

Appointed to the State Board for Educator Certification, for a term to expire February 1, 2025, Wanda H. "Jean" Streepey of Dallas, Texas (replacing Jill H. Druessedow of Haskell, whose term expired).

Greg Abbott, Governor

TRD-202001867

Proclamation 41-3732

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2020, I issued a proclamation renewing the disaster declaration for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Dr. John Hellerstedt, has determined that COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and renewed that determination on April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has issued executive orders and suspensions of Texas laws in response to COVID-19, aimed at protecting the health and safety of Texans and ensuring an effective response to this disaster; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.001(a)(2) of the Texas Election Code provides that a general or special election in this state shall be held on a uniform election date, and the next uniform election date is occurring on May 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Governor suspended Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Governor issued a proclamation postponing the runoff primary election date to July 14, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 disaster, and early voting by personal appearance for the runoff primary election begins on July 6, 2020, in accordance with Section 85.001(b) of the Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.007(d) of the Texas Election Code provides that no other election may be held on the date of a primary election; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.008 of the Texas Election Code provides that an election held on a date not permitted is void; and

WHEREAS, Section 85.001(a) of the Texas Election Code provides that the period for early voting by personal appearance begins on the 17th day before election day and continues through the fourth day before election day; and

WHEREAS, Texas law provides that the Midland County Hospital District may hold an election on the question of whether to adopt, change the rate of, or abolish a program to sustain the district on a uniform

election date as authorized by Section 41.001(a) of the Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, the Midland County Hospital District ordered a special election on the question of whether to adopt a program to sustain the district, and such election was scheduled for May 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.0011 of the Texas Election Code provides that a special election may be held as an emergency election before the appropriate uniform election date if a political subdivision asks the Governor for permission to do so and the Governor determines that an emergency exists; and

WHEREAS, the Midland County Hospital District desires to order a special election as an emergency election on the question of whether to adopt a program to sustain the district pursuant to Section 41.0011 of the Texas Election Code because holding this election at a later date would result in dire consequences for the community, including threatening the district's ability to provide adequate health care to patients in response to the COVID-19 disaster; and

WHEREAS, the Midland County Hospital District has asked the Governor for permission to hold an election on the question of whether to adopt a program to sustain the district prior to November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists under Section 41.0011 of the Texas Election Code due to the circumstances presented by the COVID-19 disaster and because the Midland County Hospital District is not able to wait until November 3, 2020, to hold a special election to adopt a program to sustain the district; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has the express authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby suspend Sections 41.007(d) and 41.008 of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to allow the Midland County Hospital District to order its special election to occur on July 14, 2020, as an emergency election on the question of whether to adopt a program to sustain the district pursuant to Section 41.0011(b) of the Texas Election Code. I further suspend Section 85.001(a) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to allow early voting by personal appearance for the special election to begin not earlier than Monday, July 6, 2020, and to run concurrently with the early voting period for the runoff primary election.

The authority ordering the election under Section 3.004 of the Texas Election Code is the authority authorized to make the decision to postpone its election in accordance with this proclamation.

Early voting by personal appearance shall begin on Monday, July 6, 2020, in accordance with Section 85.001(d) of the Texas Election Code so that it runs concurrently with the early voting period for the runoff primary election.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereto signed my name and have officially caused the Seal of State to be affixed at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, this the 8th day of May, 2020.

Greg Abbott, Governor

TRD-202001872



Proclamation 41-3733

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2020, I issued a proclamation renewing the disaster declaration for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Dr. John Hellerstedt, has determined that COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and renewed that determination on April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, I have issued executive orders, proclamations, and suspensions of Texas laws in response to the COVID-19 disaster, aimed at protecting the health and safety of Texans and ensuring an effective response to this disaster; and

WHEREAS, I issued a proclamation on March 16, 2020, ordering a special election on July 14, 2020, to fill the vacancy in Texas State Senate District No. 14; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, I issued a proclamation postponing the runoff primary election date from May 26, 2020, to July 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, I also issued a proclamation suspending Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, I subsequently issued proclamations on April 2, April 6, April 8, and May 8, 2020, authorizing certain political subdivisions to call emergency special elections on July 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Texas law provides that eligible voters have a right to cast a vote in person; and

WHEREAS, as counties across Texas prepare for the upcoming elections on July 14, 2020, and establish procedures for eligible voters to exercise their right to vote in person, it is necessary that election officials implement health protocols to conduct elections safely and to protect election workers and voters; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that elections proceed efficiently and safely when Texans go to the polls to cast a vote in person during early voting or on election day, it is necessary to increase the number of days in which polling locations will be open during the early voting period, such that election officials can implement appropriate social distancing and safe hygiene practices; and

WHEREAS, Section 85.001(a) of the Texas Election Code provides that the period for early voting by personal appearance begins 17 days before election day; and

WHEREAS, Section 85.001(b) of the Texas Election Code provides that the period for early voting for a runoff primary election begins 10 days before election day; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Texas Secretary of State, it has become apparent that strict compliance with the statutory requirements relating to the duration of early voting contained in Sections 85.001(a) and 85.001(b) of the Texas Election Code would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the COVID-19 disaster; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has the express authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby suspend Sections 85.001(a) and 85.001(b) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require that, for any election ordered or authorized to occur on July 14, 2020, early voting by personal appearance shall begin on Monday, June 29, 2020, and shall continue through the fourth day before election day, excluding any legal state or federal holidays. I further amend the proclamations issued on April 2, April 6, April 8, and May 8, 2020, authorizing emergency special elections, and the proclamation issued on March 16, 2020, ordering a special election to fill the vacancy in Texas State Senate District No. 14, so as to require that for each of these elections to be held on July 14, 2020, early voting by personal appearance shall begin on Monday, June 29, 2020, in accordance with the above suspension.

The Secretary of State shall take notice of this proclamation and shall transmit a copy of this order immediately to every County Judge of this state and all appropriate writs will be issued and all proper proceedings will be followed to the end that said elections may be held and their results proclaimed in accordance with law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereto signed my name and have officially caused the Seal of State to be affixed at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, this the 11th day of May, 2020.

Greg Abbott, Governor
TRD-202001882



Proclamation 41-3734

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services, Dr. John Hellerstedt, has determined that COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, I have issued executive orders and suspensions of Texas laws in response to COVID-19, aimed at protecting the health and safety of Texans and ensuring an effective response to this disaster; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2020, I issued a proclamation renewing the disaster declaration for all Texas counties; and

WHEREAS, a state of disaster continues to exist in all counties due to COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the authority vested in me by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, I do hereby renew the disaster proclamation for all counties in Texas.

Pursuant to Section 418.017, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster.

Pursuant to Section 418.016, any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or any order or rule of a state agency that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this disaster shall be suspended upon written approval of the Office of the Governor. However, to the extent that the enforcement of any state statute or administrative rule regarding contracting or procurement would impede any state agency's emergency response that is necessary to cope with this declared disaster, I hereby suspend such statutes and rules for the duration of this declared disaster for that limited purpose.

In accordance with the statutory requirements, copies of this proclamation shall be filed with the applicable authorities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and have officially caused the Seal of State to be affixed at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, this the 12th day of May, 2020.

Greg Abbott, Governor
TRD-202001897



Proclamation 41-3735

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on August 23, 2017, certifying that Hurricane Harvey posed a threat of imminent disaster for Aransas, Austin, Bee, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Harris, Jackson, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kleberg, Lavaca, Liberty, Live Oak, Matagorda, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, Waller, Wharton, and Wilson counties; and

WHEREAS, the disaster proclamation of August 23, 2017, was subsequently amended on August 26, August 27, August 28, and September 14 to add the following counties to the disaster proclamation: Angelina, Atascosa, Bastrop, Bexar, Brazos, Burleson, Caldwell, Cameron, Comal, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hardin, Jasper, Kerr, Lee, Leon, Madison, Milam, Montgomery, Newton, Orange, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Trinity, Tyler, Walker, Washington, and Willacy; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2017, and in each subsequent month effective through today, I issued proclamations renewing the disaster declaration for all counties listed above; and

WHEREAS, due to the catastrophic damage caused by Hurricane Harvey, a state of disaster continues to exist in those same counties;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the authority vested in me by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, I do hereby renew the disaster proclamation for the 60 counties listed above.

Pursuant to Section 418.017 of the code, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster.

Pursuant to Section 418.016 of the code, any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or any order or rule of a state agency that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this disaster shall be suspended upon written approval of the Office of the Governor. However, to the extent that the enforcement of any state statute or administrative rule regarding contracting or procurement would impede any state agency's emergency response that is necessary to protect life or property threatened by this declared disaster, I hereby authorize the suspension of such statutes and rules for the duration of this declared disaster.

In accordance with the statutory requirements, copies of this proclamation shall be filed with the applicable authorities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and have officially caused the Seal of State to be affixed at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, this the 12th day of May, 2020.

Greg Abbott, Governor

TRD-202001896

