## RULE 44 CENSURE OF TEXAS HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE ANDREW STEVENSON MURR Real County Republican Party

**WHEREAS**, Rule 44 of the Republican Party of Texas allows the Party to censure a Republican office holder who takes three or more actions during a biennium in opposition to the core principles of the Republican Party of Texas Platform; and

WHEREAS, Texas House Representative Andrew Stevenson Murr has demonstrated a pattern of action demonstrably opposed to the Principles of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) Platform and the Legislative Priorities of the Republican Party of Texas, and

**WHEREAS**, the current biennium as defined by the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas began when the state convention adjourned on Jun 18, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Texas House Representative Andrew Stevenson Murr (April 6, 2023 House Record Vote: 111) voted in favor of HB 1 Amendment 45 by Herrero (D-Robstown) to prohibit use of Appropriated Money for School Vouchers or other similar programs. The money appropriated by this Act may not be used to pay for or support a school voucher, including an education savings account, tax credit scholarship program, or a grant or other similar program to which a child may use state money for non-public primary or secondary education. This action violated the RPT's seventh core principle and our eighth legislative priority of School Choice, namely, having an educated population, with parents having the freedom of choice for the education of their children; and

WHEREAS, Texas House Representative Andrew Stevenson Murr (April 18, 2023 House Record vote: 175) voted in favor of HB 1635 sponsored by Burrows (R-Lubbock). HB 1635 seeks to have the state interfere with private political party processes ultimately preventing a political party from controlling who affiliates with them. HB 1635 represents a complete overreach by the government seeking to protect individuals that wish to not be disciplined by the party and the will of the delegates that make up their party. This violated the third, fourth, fifth and nineth core principle, mainly, going against a free enterprise society unencumbered by government interference or subsidies; and

**WHEREAS,** Texas House Representative Andrew Stevenson Murr as chair of the Committee on General Investigating (CGI) has through a period beginning March 8, 2023 and continuing until May 25, 2023 demonstrated a pattern of action demonstrably opposed to the first, third, fourth, fifth and eighth Core Principles of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) Platform;

1. The move to impeach Ken Paxton effectively seeks to overturn the will of the November 2022 voters (Third Principle) as noted;

- a. Representative Murr acted at the direction of Speaker Dade Phelan and in disregard of Texas Government Code §665.081 and the authority found in re Carrillo, 542 S.W.2d 105 (Tex. 1976), State ex rel. Russell v. Knorpp, 575 S.W.2d 401 (Tex. App. Amarillo 1978, writ ref'd. n.r.e.) and Reeves v. State, 267 S.W. 666 (Tex. 1924), and governed by;
  - Texas Government Code §665.081 No Removal for Acts Committed Before Election to Office (State ex rel. Russell v. Knorpp).
- b. The CGI and Chairman Murr included in its consideration and in the Articles of Impeachment at least six articles based on events alleged to have taken place even before January 1, 2023, the first day of Attorney General Paxton's current term.
- 2. Representative Murr, chair of the CGI admitted on May 27, 2023 that none of the witnesses who provided information to that committee were placed under oath before giving their statements as required by Texas Government Code §301.022 (Third, Fourth & Fifth Principles).
- 3. The CGI and the Texas House at the behest of Chairman Murr failed to follow its own precedents in previous impeachment hearings which traditionally offered due process and defendant representation following the Texas Rules of Evidence to allow Attorney General Paxton the opportunity to present evidence in his defense or to cross-examine witnesses, which is contrary to the spirit of the U.S. Constitution Amendments V and VI and to the precedent established by the Texas House of Representatives in the 1975-76 Carillo impeachment proceeding (First & Eighth Principle).
- 4. The CGI under the guidance of Chairman Murr hired a group of partisan investigators and accepted second-hand and third-hand testimony gathered by those investigators (First & Eighth Principle).

**THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN** the Republican Party of Texas on June 17, 2023 passed a resolution that CONDEMNED the politically motivated impeachment of Attorney General Paxton by the Texas House of Representatives and IMPLORED Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and members of the Texas Senate to uphold Constitutionally guaranteed due process, fairness, precedent, and the rule of law by rendering judgment as a matter of law in the Texas Senate on the grounds that the House of Representatives failed to satisfy due process, to comply with applicable Texas law, and to adhere to precedent; that the articles of impeachment be dismissed with prejudice; and that Ken Paxton be allowed to promptly resume his duties as the duly elected Attorney General. Ken Paxton was duly exonerated of all charges by the Texas Senate.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as Texas State Representative for House District 53 and Chair of the House Committee on General Investigating (CGI), Representative Murr exceeded his

authority by leading an illegal, unconstitutional impeachment proceeding to overturn the November 2022 election, thereby denying the will of WE THE PEOPLE, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in accordance with Rule 44 of the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas, the County Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Real County, meeting November 11, 2023, a quorum being present, by a vote of at least two-thirds present and voting, hereby censures Representative Andrew Stevenson Murr, a public office holder representing the 53<sup>rd</sup> House District of Texas which includes the entirety of Real County for actions violating three or more of the core principles of the RPT Platform, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Representative Murr has been duly notified having been sent via registered mail on October 23, 2023 and by phone with their office on October 23, 2023 and invited to attend the County Executive Committee (CEC) meeting of the Republican Party of Real County on November 11, 2023 to answer these charges, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we request this censure be considered and sustained by the State Republican Executive Committee, and that the penalties provided in RPT Rule 44 be imposed.

PASSED, by the Real County Republican Party County Executive Committee on this  $11^{th}$  day of November, 2023.

ck DuBose

Real County Republican Chairman

Brenda Askew

**Real County Republican Secretary**