

HOUSE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION

PROCEEDINGS

THIRD DAY — THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023

The house met at 10:42 a.m. and was called to order by the speaker.

The roll of the house was called and a quorum was announced present (Record 18).

Present — Mr. Speaker(C); Allen; Allison; Anchía; Anderson; Ashby; Bailes; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Burns; Burrows; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Clardy; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Darby; Davis; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Flores; Frank; Frazier; Gámez; Garcia; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; Goldman; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris, C.E.; Harris, C.J.; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Herrero; Hinojosa; Holland; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Jetton; Johnson, A.; Johnson, J.D.; Johnson, J.E.; Jones, J.; Jones, V.; Kacal; King, K.; King, T.; Kitzman; Klick; Kuempel; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo-Wilson; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lozano; Lujan; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Moody; Morales, C.; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morrison; Muñoz; Murr; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Ortega; Patterson; Paul; Perez; Plesa; Price; Ramos; Raney; Raymond; Reynolds; Rogers; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Shaheen; Sherman; Shine; Slaton; Slawson; Smith; Smithee; Spiller; Stucky; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thierry; Thimesch; Thompson, E.; Thompson, S.; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Vo; Walle; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Absent, Excused — Schaefer.

Absent — Neave Criado.

The invocation was offered by the Reverend Jakob N. Hurlimann, chaplain, as follows:

Heavenly Father, you who have spoken in ancient times through the patriarchs and prophets, who speak to us now in the silence of our hearts, make known your presence to us today. Guide all who serve in this house to imitate your truth, your beauty, your goodness, in the work to which they apply themselves this day. May they know their own dignity, their own inestimable worth, as being crafted in your image, as being desired and loved by you from before the foundations of the world. May each one of us gathered here today remember that you are more present to us than we are to ourselves, and diligently apply ourselves this day to the work that will bring about your kingdom in each of our lives, and in the lives of those whom we serve. Amen.

The speaker led the house in the pledges of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following member was granted leave of absence for today because of important business in the district:

Schaefer on motion of Vasut.

CAPITOL PHYSICIAN

The chair presented Dr. T. David Greer of Henrietta as the "Doctor for the Day."

The house welcomed Dr. Greer and thanked him for his participation in the Physician of the Day Program sponsored by the Texas Academy of Family Physicians.

HOUSE AT EASE

At 10:46 a.m., the chair announced that the house would stand at ease pending the arrival of guests.

CANVASSING THE VOTES CAST FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (The House of Representatives and Senate in Joint Session)

In accordance with the provisions of **SCR 6** providing for a joint session of the house and senate for the purpose of counting the votes for the governor of Texas and the lieutenant governor of Texas cast at the general election, held on November 8, 2022, the honorable senators, at 10:59 a.m., were admitted to the hall of the house and occupied seats arranged for them.

President pro tempore Hancock was escorted to the speaker's rostrum and called the senate to order.

Speaker Phelan called the house of representatives to order at 11:07 a.m.

Speaker Phelan stated that the house and senate were in joint session pursuant to **SCR 6** for the purpose of counting the votes for governor of Texas and lieutenant governor of Texas cast at the last general election, held on November 8, 2022.

JOINT COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The speaker announced the appointment of the following joint committee of tellers to count the votes cast for governor and lieutenant governor: Senators Flores, chair; King, LaMantia, Middleton, Parker, and Sparks on the part of the senate; and Representatives Darby, chair; Ashby, Cook, A. Johnson, E. Morales, and Spiller on the part of the house.

The joint tellers were announced present.

Speaker Phelan made the following announcement:

Pursuant to the Texas Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, as speaker of the house of representatives, I now officially turn over to the joint committee the official returns of the last general election, held November 8, 2022, for the office of governor and for the office of lieutenant governor of Texas, said returns having been turned over to me by the Honorable Jane Nelson, secretary of state.

JOINT SESSION AT EASE

At 11:10 a.m., the speaker announced that the joint session would stand at ease pending the receipt of the report of the joint committee of tellers.

(Neave Criado now present)

The speaker called the joint session to order at 12:20 p.m.

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE TO CANVASS VOTES CAST FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Speaker Phelan stated that the joint tellers had completed the count of the votes and the legislature was now ready to receive the results and the report of the joint tellers. The report was read, as follows:

Austin, Texas
January 12, 2023

The Honorable Kelly Hancock
President pro tempore of the Senate

The Honorable Dade Phelan
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs:

We, the joint committee appointed by the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives to canvass the votes cast at the last general election held in the State of Texas on November 8, 2022, for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas, as shown by returns delivered to us by the secretary of state, beg leave to report that we have performed that duty and that the result of our canvass is as follows:

There were votes cast for governor, as follows:

Greg Abbott, Republican Party	4,437,099
Beto O'Rourke, Democratic Party	3,553,656
Mark Jay Tippetts, Libertarian Party	81,932
Delilah Barrios, Green Party	28,584
Others	1,637

There were votes cast for lieutenant governor, as follows:

Dan Patrick, Republican Party	4,317,692
Mike Collier, Democratic Party	3,492,544
Shanna Steele, Libertarian Party	222,208

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Flores, Chair
Phil King
Morgan LaMantia
Mayes Middleton
Tan Parker
Kevin Sparks
On the part of the Senate

Drew Darby, Chair
Trent Ashby
David Cook
Ann Johnson
Eddie Morales
David Spiller
On the part of the House of Representatives

The report was adopted.

Speaker Phelan made the following announcement:

The Honorable Greg Abbott having received the highest number of votes cast, I, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas, declare him duly, legally, and constitutionally elected governor of the State of Texas for the ensuing term of four years.

The Honorable Dan Patrick having received the highest number of votes cast, I, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas, declare him duly, legally, and constitutionally elected lieutenant governor of the State of Texas for the ensuing term of four years.

Speaker Phelan delivered the official returns of the election to the secretary of state.

SENATE RECESS

At 12:24 p.m., the president pro tempore stated that the purpose for which the joint session was called had been completed and the senate would, in accordance with a previous motion, stand recessed until 11 a.m. Tuesday, January 17.

HOUSE AT EASE

At 12:24 p.m., the chair announced that the house would stand at ease pending the departure of guests.

The chair called the house to order at 12:27 p.m.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The speaker announced the appointment of the following inaugural committee: Holland, chair; Buckley, K. King, Lozano, and Orr.

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Goldman moved that the house adjourn until 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 17.

The motion prevailed.

The house accordingly, at 12:29 p.m., adjourned until 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 17.