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## Texas State Representatives Frullo, Huberty, Larson, Paddie and Price Issue Joint Statement

Contact: Allen Blakemore

713-526-3399

HOUSTON, TX – As long-serving members of the Texas House, we informed Speaker Bonnen earlier today that we no longer support him as our Speaker. Last week, we had the opportunity to listen to the secretly recorded meeting between Speaker Bonnen, Representative Burrows and Michael Quinn Sullivan that took place on June 12, 2019. We also had the opportunity last Friday to meet as a House Republican Caucus for the first time since the audio file was made available to thoroughly discuss the situation with other members and hear directly from Speaker Bonnen. It is clear that trust and confidence in the Speaker has significantly eroded among our membership, and the matter has both damaged the reputation of the House and relationships among individual members. The House Republican Caucus issued an official statement condemning the conduct of Speaker Bonnen and Representative Burrows that we helped draft and fully support; however, we individually and collectively want to further express our belief that a leadership change is necessary.

The recently concluded and historic 86th Legislative Session was highly successful. We accomplished great achievements in the areas of public education, finance reform, property tax transparency and relief, healthcare, economic development, flood mitigation, disaster preparedness, human trafficking and additional important policy matters.

We intend to build on those successes, and others, as we prepare for the upcoming 87th legislature. However, we believe that without a change in House leadership, the existing damage will continue to metastasize, and our efforts will be overshadowed and become increasingly difficult. This issue is larger than any one individual, office, meeting or statement. Speaker Bonnen is our colleague and our friend; but we believe an expedient, deliberate and well-planned transition is needed for the House and best for Texas.

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