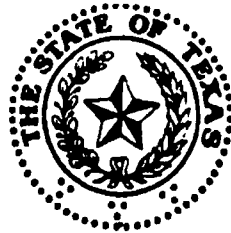


JOURNAL
OF THE
House of Representatives
OF THE
REGULAR SESSION
OF THE
Sixtieth Legislature
OF THE
STATE OF TEXAS
BEGUN AND HELD AT
THE CITY OF AUSTIN
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**ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER
OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**

The Honorable Secretary of State announced that the next order of business was the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixtieth Legislature of the State of Texas, and stated that nominations for Speaker are now in order.

The Honorable Secretary of State recognized the Honorable Gene Hendryx of Brewster County, who placed in nomination for Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixtieth Legislature of the State of Texas as the Honorable Ben Barnes of Comanche County, speaking as follows:

Mr. Secretary of State, distinguished Members of the Texas House of Representatives, my fellow Texans:

It is with a great sense of pride and a deep feeling of humility, that I come before you on this historic occasion to place in nomination for the office of Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, the Honorable Ben Barnes.

Today marks a milestone in the long and glorious history of our beloved state. Two years ago, the 59th Legislature elected by acclamation this same man among men as Speaker, the youngest man ever elected by a freely chosen, lawfully assembled, Texas Legislature. Today, we ask him to come forward and serve in the same capacity for another term, the fourth time this has occurred in the history of Texas. This talented Texan is the first man in history of this state to be elected Speaker of this House twice in a row by the unanimous choice of his colleagues.

He has been tested under fire, and his leadership withstood the heat and the crosscurrents of legislative battle. He proved to be a leader of great

firmness, yet a leader with a compassionate heart.

His ability to find areas of agreement and common ground is unprecedented. He won the respect and loyalty of every facet of this House; conservative, liberal, rural, metropolitan. We as Texans are fortunate to have a leader who can and does bridge the gap between the old and the new. Ben Barnes worked long and hard to master the legislative processes, and has served this House not only as a co-worker but also as a defender, protector, and advocate of the traditions and customs handed down by countless generations who passed this way before.

Soon after he entered the Legislature in 1961, it became apparent that here was no ordinary man. In a relatively short time, his fellow House Members recognized his great abilities as a natural leader.

His colleagues elected him Speaker in 1965, and he worked mightily to unite this House into a harmonious, constructive, legislative body. Those efforts bore fruit in both the regular and the called session. Nowhere in history of this State will you find a more productive record than that of the 59th Session.

In the judgment of many, this 60th Session convening today in this historic capitol faces a more varied assortment of problems than did any previous session. Under the leadership of Ben Barnes, there is no question in my mind that this 60th Session will be even more constructive, more productive, and more cognizant of the needs of this State than any session in history.

I need not dwell on his humble background and his great Texas heritage, of the sacrifices of both he and his family, sacrifices far

greater than we have a right to expect. We all know these things, and we in Texas are not alone in this recognition. Leaders of other great states are well aware of the tall, sandy headed young man who came off a peanut farm in Comanche County to leave his imprint on the pages of time. He is presently serving as Vice-Chairman of the Southern Legislative Conference and next year will be the Chairman of that group, the first man in history of Texas to hold that high office. He is a director of the National Legislative Conference, a member of the Board of Managers of the National Legislative Council, and a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Legislative Leaders. Never before has Texas had a legislative leader who has brought such national recognition to this State.

Many great Texas giants have served in this House: Sam Houston, John Garner, and Sam Rayburn among others.

Today it is with great honor that I come before you to place in nomination, for Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, the name of a great Texan who can stand among the giants of Texas History, the distinguished State Representative from the 64th District of Texas, the Honorable Ben Barnes.

The Chair then asked if there were further nominations for the Office of Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixtieth Legislature.

There being none, the Chair then recognized the Honorable James L. Slider of Morris County, who seconded the nomination of the Honorable Ben Barnes, speaking as follows:

Mr. Secretary of State, Fellow Members of the House of Representatives, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is rather hard for me to express to you the sense of pride I bear at this moment. Six years ago, Ben Barnes and I entered this House together. Today, I have the opportunity and honor, for the second time, to second his nomination for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Countless others have assembled as we have today in Legislative Sessions.

Today, we face the first decision of this Session of the 60th Legislature. And in a very real sense it is perhaps the most important of all we shall make. For it is in the selection of the Speaker on the first day which inevitably writes the final chapter of success the last legislative day.

Ben and I have been on the losing side of many a vote in this House; yet, during all of the days of our service together I have never seen him turn to bitterness or to anger when the vote went against him. To him there would always be another day and another vote. Yet, I have been on the winning side of many votes in this House with Ben, and never once have I seen him take more than the normal satisfaction in such fact. Win or lose, Ben has always recognized and respected the position of his fellow members on every issue.

No single factor determines the manner in which history will view the work of a legislature, than does its Speaker.

The responsibilities and burdens of this leadership are many and difficult. Ben Barnes is a man who has proven his ability to meet these demands.

His energy is boundless—his integrity unquestionable—his fairness proven—his ability unequalled—and his knowledge respected by all who have met him.

We all share a common concern—the future well-being and prosperity of this great State of Texas.

This Session of the Legislature will not be an easy one for any of us. In the days to come, there will be many hard votes and many close votes. I can think of no fairer man to preside over this House on such occasions than Ben Barnes. And this I know, as Speaker of the 60th Legislature, Ben Barnes will make our task easier, for he does not shy from responsibility.

Ben Barnes is known for his concern for the betterment and welfare of our great State.

He is known for his frankness and sincerity, his courage in the face of obstacles.

Ben is admired for his loyalty and devotion to principle.

So it is with great pride and a great deal of personal pleasure, I second the nomination of Ben Barnes for Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 60th Legislature.

The Chair then recognized the Honorable Jim Hairgrove of Brazoria County, who seconded the nomination of the Honorable Ben Barnes, speaking as follows:

Mr. Secretary of State, Members of the 60th Session of the House of Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The position of Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Texas is the most important in the entire House, if not one of the most important in all of our State Government.

As a freshman Member of the House, I have had the opportunity to observe the activities of the Speaker of the 59th Session, far removed from the intricacies and inner workings of State Government. As a private citizen, I have witnessed a display of leadership that, in my opinion, has been unequalled in the annals of recent State Government.

Gentlemen, for Speaker of the House we need a man, not only dedicated to the ideals of responsive Government, close to the people, but we need a man who has the ability and intense desire to provide the leadership so vitally needed to enable the State of Texas to move forward into the forefront of leadership and service to our people.

We need a man who has the enthusiasm, the foresight, and the determination to develop and carry out plans that are compatible with rapidly changing growth climate so evident now throughout the State.

We have seen evidence, in recent months, that the Speaker of the 59th Session has such capabilities of dynamic leadership, that I feel, we need, to maintain in the House of Representatives, evidence of advance planning and organization, so necessary to meet and challenge the growing and complex needs of a great State.

Not only have we been fortunate in having the leadership of a man, dedicated to service to our State, but one who is rapidly gaining in stature throughout the nation. This is vital, as we have seen in recent months, as the problems of State and Federal Government become more complex and intertwined.

Gentlemen of the House, it is with great pride that I second the nomination of the Honorable Ben Barnes as Speaker of the House of Representatives, of the State of Texas, now convened in the 60th Session.

Thank you.

The Chair then recognized the Honorable Carl Parker of Jefferson County, who seconded the nomination of the Honorable Ben Barnes, speaking as follows:

Mr. Secretary of State, Distinguished Members, Honorable Guests:

It is with pride that I second the nomination for Ben Barnes as Speaker of the 60th Session of the House of Representatives. As long as I live, this moment will be indelibly inscribed in my memory.

Today we choose not only a presiding officer for this august Body, but a leader for the entire State of Texas.

As the vastness of Texas is great, its problems and complexities are many.

As we launch this ship of state to traverse the complexities and solve the problems we are to face, we must not lose sight of the boundless opportunities available to every citizen of this grand State.

This legislative forum is the arena for an advisory system of ideas, out of which must emerge our State's plan for progress. Ben Barnes, in presiding over this Body, will assure that every meritorious idea will have a fair opportunity to be heard.

In choosing Ben Barnes as our Speaker, we choose a man with not only the zeal and fortitude to attack our problems but a man who also has the optimism and vision of youth to see and grasp the opportunities available to our great State.

By electing Ben Barnes, we gain in our Speaker the quality and ability

to chart a course that will bring tomorrow's generations prosperity, growth, freedom, happiness, and pride in our American heritage.

With confidence in his ability to attain these ends, I proudly second the nomination of Ben Barnes as Speaker of this Legislative Body.

Mr. Parker moved that nominations cease, and that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be instructed to cast the vote of all the Members of the House of Representatives for the Honorable Ben Barnes for Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixtieth Legislature, and that Ben Barnes be unanimously elected Speaker of the House of Representatives by acclamation.

The motion prevailed unanimously.

The Temporary Chief Clerk, upon direction of the Honorable Secretary of State then cast the entire ballot for the Honorable Ben Barnes for Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixtieth Legislature.

The Honorable John L. Hill, Secretary of State of the State of Texas, then declared the Honorable Ben Barnes of Comanche County to be the duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Texas of the Sixtieth Legislature.

OATH OF OFFICE TAKEN BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

The Honorable Secretary of State announced the appointment of the following committee to escort the Speaker-elect to the Speaker's Rostrum for the purpose of the taking of the Constitutional Oath of Office by the Speaker-elect: Representatives Atwell, McKissack, Santiesteban, Archer, Barton, Lockridge, Garwood, Wieting, Solomon, Whatley, Bass of Harris Crews of Montgomery, Cavness and Jungmichel.

The Honorable Ben Barnes of Comanche County, having been escorted to the Speaker's Rostrum, took the Constitutional Oath of Office as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixtieth Legislature of the State of Texas, which was administered by the Honorable John L. Hill, Secretary of State.

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER BEN BARNES

The Honorable Secretary of State presented the Honorable R. H. (Dick) Cory of Victoria County.

Mr. Cory, in turn, introduced Speaker Ben Barnes to the House of Representatives, speaking as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At any time it would be a rare privilege to introduce to this House of Representatives its newly-elected Speaker. It is even more of a distinguished honor to present to you this morning the man you have selected to serve a second consecutive term as your Speaker—an occurrence truly unusual in the history of the Texas Legislature.

In designating Ben Barnes again as your Speaker, you have demonstrated your confidence in his work during the past session and have chosen a man who will join with the entire membership of this House in doing everything possible to make the work of the 60th Legislature an outstanding success.

We have measured him in the past as he measures himself now—according to his devoted service to the State of Texas. The House action today reflects its unqualified approval.

He has led us on the path of service and accomplishment and it gives me the greatest of pleasure to present to you your Speaker—our Speaker—the Honorable Ben Barnes.

Speaker Barnes then addressed the House, as follows:

Thank you very much, my friend, Representative Dick Cory, Secretary of State Hill and fellow colleagues in the Texas House of Representatives, and my fellow Texans. It is with a very deep sense of humility that I stand before you, the assembled elected Representatives of the Texas House of Representatives. I could not adequately express my appreciation, the sense of gratitude, and the deepest thanks that fill my heart today.

Two years ago I stood before you, not realizing as much as I do today the responsibility that you have just placed on my shoulders. We have

many problems which we must find the answers to during the next 140 days and I'm convinced that many of these answers can be found, as we found them during the last session, if we continue to keep the motto that guided us through the 140 days and the special session two years ago of determination and dedication, and work, work, and work.

This is a very important occasion in my life, one that I will remember always and I would be somewhat ungrateful if I didn't thank my parents that I am so honored to have with me today. And especially one person should be here with me now as your family is with you as you took the oath and as we begin the first day of service in the 60th Session. To this young lady who has my love and devotion I could never adequately, privately, or publicly express my appreciation for the part that she has played in my being here today. Martha, if you would—I would like to present you.

And together we say to each of you we could never repay you for the things that you have done for us in the past. We could never adequately express how we feel at this moment

and how much that you have honored us. We can only pledge to you that you are our friends. We will continue to try at all times to be a Mr. and Mrs. Speaker that you will be proud of. Thank you so much.