



**State Senator  
Kirk Watson  
District 14**

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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*The following are Sen. Watson's comments on the floor of the Texas Senate in the wake of the terrible events in Charlottesville:*

I rise to ask for the Senate to engage in a moment of silence for those who were killed and injured in Charlottesville, Virginia on Saturday.

Some of them stepped up to oppose the immoral hatred and bigotry and racism of the white supremacists that had descended upon Charlottesville, and they were targeted as a result. Others were public servants who stepped up to protect them — all of them.

Our values should be equality, diversity and love. They should also include the unconditional condemnation of hate and those who incite its ugly, divisive cancer.

It pains me, as I know it pains you, that good Americans were harmed in the course of having to defending equality and unity.

But their courage and commitment — and the courage and commitment of so many others — gives me hope, because the only way to stop the scourge of hate is for good people to show up and speak out.

Mr. President I ask that we engage in a moment of silence as a representation of our shared values, and to honor those injured and killed in Charlottesville.

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