



**State Senator
Kirk Watson
District 14**

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Watson named President Pro Tempore of the Senate

The Texas Senate elected Senator Kirk Watson to serve as President Pro Tempore during the 86th Legislature.

The President Pro Tempore of the Senate is a constitutional office chosen pursuant to the Senate rules and is traditionally a senior Senate member. The President Pro Tempore is in the line of succession to the Governor and serves as Governor in the absence of the Governor and Lt. Governor.

"Serving my community and my state over the past two decades has been a great honor and privilege," said Senator Watson, who was first elected mayor of Austin in 1997 and senator in 2006.

"I love Texas. I'm so proud to be part of this state's history, and so grateful of the role it's played in mine," Senator Watson said. "I appreciate the good, decent, hard-working people of this state. Those Texans — the ones who are here and the ones who are coming — have always shaped the priorities I've brought into this chamber."

In his speech, Senator Watson noted that the Texas is a "beautifully diverse place" that nurtures a diversity of voices that should be heard and respected.

"It's how good-faith principles lead good servants to the common good," Senator Watson said. "It's how this chamber of servants from different places and different experiences truly succeeds — not in spite of our differences, but because of them."

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