



# KYLE BIEDERMANN

TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 73

The Honorable Ron Nirenberg  
P.O. Box 839966  
San Antonio, TX 78283

August 17, 2020

Dear Mayor Nirenberg,

The Cenotaph is a monument to our shared Texas history and is not, nor should be a partisan issue. When the Texans fought at the Alamo, it was for independence from a dictator, Santa Anna, to secure the freedoms our country was built on. Honoring those men who fought and died for Texas Independence should not be left to the discretion of a few public officials.

Many have used the argument that the Cenotaph wasn't placed in the originally selected location and therefore is okay to be moved, but there is more to that story. In fact, Claude Teer, Chairman of the State Board of Control - the agency in charge of the Centennial Funds and Projects, wrote to Pompeo Coppini congratulating him on securing "a more desirable location for the Cenotaph." He acknowledged it was "our success." This is part of the historical facts of the Cenotaph. The location for the Cenotaph was deliberately chosen; not only by Coppini and Adams, but also by the Mayor and City Council of San Antonio with the blessing of the Texas State Board of Control. The actual letter is attached.

Recently, the Texas GOP again made the Alamo Cenotaph a priority by including "Monument Protection" in the 2020 Platform. It reads:

### *Monument Protection*

*"All monuments or markers in our state shall be protected by law from being removed, defaced, destroyed, or otherwise dishonored. In particular, specific protection shall be given to the Alamo Cenotaph which shall not be removed from its current location off the Alamo Battlefield footprint."*

As you know, over 97% of Republican primary voters also voiced their desire not to relocate the Cenotaph. Regrettably, Democrat primary voters did not have that opportunity, but according to polls, surveys and social media responses, a majority of Democrats would have opposed it also. In fact it is difficult to find many who are in favor of relocating it except for the GLO and the City of San Antonio officials and their Advisory Board.

This small group of public officials and advisory boards have made the decision to move the Cenotaph against the will of the majority of Texans and the past City of San Antonio officials. Because of this overwhelming opposition to the relocation of the Cenotaph, I encourage the Texas Historical Commission to reject the permit to dismantle the Cenotaph and to proceed with



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the parts of the Alamo Master Plan that are without major controversy and make the necessary repairs to the Cenotaph in its current location.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Biedermann".

Kyle Biedermann  
*State Representative*  
House District 73

CC: Chairman Lt. Colonel Allen West  
Councilmember Roberto Treviño  
Councilmember Jada Andrews-Sullivan  
Councilmember Rebecca Viagran  
Councilmember Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia  
Councilmember Shirely Gonzales  
Councilmember Melissa Cabello Havrda  
Councilmember Ana Sandoval  
Councilmember Manny Peláez  
Councilmember John Courage  
Councilmember Clayton Perry  
Commissioner George P. Bush  
Commissioner John L. Nau III  
Commissioner Earl Broussard  
Commissioner Jim Bruseth  
Commissioner Monica Burdette  
Commissioner John Crain  
Commissioner Garrett Donnelly  
Commissioner Renee Dutia  
Commissioner Lilia Garcia  
Commissioner David Gravelle  
Commissioner Wallace Jefferson  
Commissioner Laurie Limbacher  
Commissioner Catherine McKnight  
Commissioner Tom Perini  
Commissioner Gilbert Peterson  
Commissioner Daisy Sloan White



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*Letter from Claude Teer, Chairman of the State Board of Control:*

