

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fair for Houston celebrates the passage of Proposition B

A scrappy, grassroots campaign has successfully passed the first-of-its-kind ballot reform of regional government. A fairer future for the region is possible!

HOUSTON, TX– The passage of Proposition B comes after 11 months of hard-work. A scrappy, grassroots team with over 250 volunteers from Houston and the surrounding region, submitted 23,665 verified signatures from registered Houston voters to the Houston City Secretary for this proposition to be on the ballot this November. As of election night, they knocked on the doors of 184,000 people and had countless conversations across the city.

Proposition B sought to reform voting structure of the Regional Council of Governments and Metropolitan Planning Organization serving the thirteen-county Greater Houston Region. The proposed charter amendment would activate interlocal negotiations to modernize the voting structure on the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC). H-GAC already opened the committees on board composition at both the Board of Directors and the Transportation Policy Council in anticipation of the passage of Proposition B. Fair for Houston eagerly anticipates fruitful negotiations between local leaders throughout the Greater Houston Area to meet the requirement. The voting structures at H-GAC have not been seriously updated in fifty years to account for population, [leaving not only Houston](#), but also Harris County, Fort Bend, and Montgomery County underrepresented.

Voters across Houston grasped the importance of proportional representation on H-GAC, both to improve regional outcomes and shape visionary policy. This is a win not only for fair reform of our governmental structures, but also for civic engagement. People are hungry to know and understand the structures that affect their every day lives. If you meet them at their door step, year-round, anything is possible.

Quotes from organizers and affiliated organizations:

"For too long, regional planners in the Gulf Coast have left working families in Houston and Harris County behind. With the passage of Prop B, we're close to righting that historic wrong, and ensuring that Harris County residents get a fair shake." - Jay Malone, Political Director, Texas Gulf Coast Area Labor Federation

"Empowering all communities in the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) with proportional representation – as Proposition B demands – is a necessary step towards building a transportation system that works for everyone. We are proud to share in this collective victory and congratulate everyone who collected a signature, knocked on a door, and engaged their friends and neighbors on this critical issue." - Gabe Cazares, Executive Director, LINK Houston

"Air Alliance Houston is thrilled at the passage of Proposition B. Now we can have a real conversation about how the decisions that affect our air quality, our resilience, and our quality of life are being made. For too long, critical regional decisions have sacrificed the needs of Houstonians. Now we have spoken, and we want change. I look forward to being an active participant in the reimagining of our regional infrastructure." - Jen Hadayia, Executive Director, Air Alliance Houston

"The future of the Houston metro is bright. Thank you to the Houston voters for recognizing this issue and taking part in improving our regional government. We are excited to see the H-GAC modernize its voting structure and are dreaming of a future where the region plans a built environment that is bold, creative, and liberating." - Michael Moritz, Fair for Houston Organizer

"As organizers fighting for a safer, healthier future for the Houston region, sometimes we win, and sometimes we lose. It took grit, trust, and persistence, and this time we won. I hope everyone watching this campaign unfold for the last year feels more powerful than ever to shape change in their own backyards. The Fair for Houston team was willing to do whatever it took to fight for fair representation, and we won—not just for us, but for every person living in the Houston region. With teamwork, strategy, and grit, change is always possible. The Fair for Houston team values grassroots organizing and a bottom-up approach to planning. We were strategic, persistent, and fearless. It is impossible to overstate how proud I am to be a founding member of this team." - Molly Cook, Fair for Houston Organizer, Candidate for Texas Senate District 15

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