



# CITY OF HOUSTON

**Sylvester Turner**

Mayor

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May 23, 2018

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

As mayor of the City of Houston, home to more than 2.3 million people, the world-renowned Texas Medical Center, the Johnson Space Center, a concentration of petrochemical plants along the Houston Ship Channel and the Port of Houston, all vulnerable to the threat of devastating storm surge from Gulf hurricanes, I want you to know that I fully support S. 2866, the Coastal Texas Protection Act.

This legislation would benefit the City of Houston and surrounding communities by requiring the Secretary of the Army to expedite the completion of feasibility studies for flood damage reduction, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and ecosystem restoration in the coastal areas of Texas.

Since Hurricane Ike struck Texas nearly 10 years ago, multiple entities have been working towards a barrier system that would protect the 6 million people that live in the region, as well as the industry that is critical to the national economy. Through the work of the Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District, Texas A&M Galveston, the Greater Houston Partnership, Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and the Texas General Land Office, multiple studies have all led to the same conclusion: a forward line of defense that has been termed the "coastal barrier system."

With the passage of your legislation, Texas and the nation will be one step closer to bringing this vital project to fruition. Moving forward with the coastal barrier system is crucial to protecting our citizens and our state and national economy.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sylvester Turner", written over a horizontal line.

Sylvester Turner  
Mayor