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### **Texas Senate Sneaks In Vote To Approve Kelcy Warren For Parks & Wildlife Commission**

AUSTIN, TX - In a swift move, the Texas Senate approved the appointment of Kelcy Warren, CEO of Energy Transfer Partners, to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission on the Senate floor today. The vote was 22-9 and came with little notice. Voting with Republicans in favor of Warren's nomination were Democratic Senators Eddie Lucio (D-Brownsville) and Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa (D-McAllen). All other Democratic Senators voted no.

The quick nature of the vote indicated Senate Republicans did not want to draw attention to it. Warren's name was not even mentioned when the vote was called. He was only referred to as "the nominee" on the floor.

In response, **Cyrus Reed, Conservation Director of the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter**, issued the follow statement:

"In a session riddled with irresponsible and discriminatory legislation and disrespect for democratic processes, it is especially saddening to see Senators Lucio and Hinojosa and all Republican Senators vote to appoint a person so fundamentally opposite of the mission of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Kelcy Warren cares about pipelines, not the protection and preservation of our state's most treasured spaces. Today, the political contributions made by Kelcy Warren and Energy Transfer Partners to Governor Abbott, Senator Lucio, Senator Hinojosa, and many others won out over democracy."

"As despicable as this appointment is, and as underhanded as Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and Senator Birdwell's tactics were, we are undaunted and will continue to be part of the movement toward a more equitable, sustainable, and just Texas."

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