



CITY OF HOUSTON

Sylvester Turner

Mayor

P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Telephone – Dial 311
www.houstontx.gov

September 13, 2021

American Meteorological Society
45 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108-3693

Dear American Meteorological Society (AMS),

As Mayor of Houston, I want to thank you for selecting our City for your 102nd Annual Meeting in January 2022. I have full confidence you will find Houston to be a welcoming, diverse, and excellent host city to your members and guests.

I would like to acknowledge a concern that is being expressed by many across the nation about the actions taken by the Republican leadership in the Texas State Legislature. I share these concerns and have been vocal about it. The shameful policies passed during this year's legislative session are not reflective of Houston or, for that matter, a majority of Texans. In the wake of these new laws on guns, abortion, and voting rights, polling shows that Governor Abbott's approval rating is negative, and a majority of Texans believe the state is headed in the wrong direction. I encourage your members to speak their hearts and minds on these subjects.

Houston stands apart from these policies and your presence here can send a strong message about the policies and issues we all care about. Houston has faced seven federally declared disasters in the past six years, which has led me to pursue and be appointed as the Chair of US Climate Mayors, the Resilient Cities Network, and the African American Mayors Association. The science behind meteorology and climate change helps shape our policies around resilience in the long run and helps protect lives in the moments of major weather events. Given the impact of weather and climate extremes on the people of Houston and the alignment of my climate and environmental policies with your mission, I can't think of a more ideal city for the AMS to engage with than Houston.

Your invitation to speak at the AMS Annual Meeting is appreciated. I look forward to your visit in January 2022 and working with you to participate and discuss our shared challenges.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvester Turner".

Sylvester Turner
Mayor