



BORRIS L. MILES

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: CRIMINAL JUSTICE • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • NOMINATIONS • TRANSPORTATION

December 19, 2025

Dr. Esmail Porsa
President and CEO
Harris Health
4800 Fournace Place
Bellaire, TX 77410

Dear Dr. Porsa,

I am writing to you today to express my strong support for the Ben Taub expansion plan as unanimously approved by the Harris Health Board of Trustees.

This critical expansion will ensure Harris Health's ability to meet the health care needs of people from Senate District 13, as well as Harris County and the larger Southeast Texas region for years to come. I sit on the Health and Human Services committee and am very involved in the health of my community. Therefore I am well aware that Ben Taub consistently operates at or above its 402 bed capacity. I am also well aware that demand for healthcare services from Ben Taub has increased year over year and will continue to in the future.

It has been all over the news that Medicaid is being cut at the federal level and Affordable Care Act subsidies will be ending this year. This means that thousands of Texans will lose health benefits and, with it, sorely needed access to health care. Additionally, due to Harris County's current and projected population growth, I have been informed that Ben Taub expects demand to grow by as much as 18,000 emergency visits over the next 10 years. With this type of future growth, it seems that an expansion is clearly necessary.

This proposed plan seems to be a thoughtful, cost effective way to address this critical need in a manner that minimizes the impact on adjacent parcels of land, including the parcel slated for acquisition and eventual construction.

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Throughout the process, Harris Health has committed to me that there will be robust community engagement and continuous communication with all affected stakeholders. They have further committed to me that this engagement and communication will continue long after the first shovel breaks the ground.

I again reiterate my full support for Harris Health's Ben Taub expansion plan, ensuring the Texas Medical Center will remain open to vulnerable patients and patients with complex trauma needs for decades to come.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me and my office and we will do our best to address them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Borris L. Miles', with a stylized, flowing script.

Borris L. Miles
Texas State Senator
District 13