

*ABC's Good Morning America*

05/27/26

7:00:23 a.m. [TEASE]

2 seconds

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: All eyes on Texas ahead of the midterms.

(....)

7:00:34 a.m. [TEASE]

12 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: High Stakes; Texas-Sized Win]

STEPHANOPOULOS: Texas-sized win for President Trump. Attorney General Ken Paxton ousts longtime Republican Senator John Cornyn in the high-stakes primary. Will that backfire for the GOP in November? How the race could decide which party controls the Senate.

(....)

7:02:51 a.m.

1 minute and 32 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New Overnight; Trump-Backed Challenger Wins Texas Senate Runoff]

STEPHANOPOULOS: And we begin with the voting in Texas last night that could have a big impact on the balance of power in the Senate. With a huge boost from President Trump, the state's controversial attorney general, Ken Paxton, defeated incumbent Senator John Cornyn, a win that could boost Democrats come November. Jay O'Brien starts us off. Good morning, Jay.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New Overnight; Paxton Defeats Cornyn in Republican Senate Runoff]

JAY O'BRIEN: George, good morning to you. This is a major Texas-sized win for President Trump, giving a last-minute endorsement to Texas's embattled attorney general, Ken Paxton, but allowing him to wallop the state's long-time Republican Senator, John Cornyn, beating him by around 30 points in that run-off last night, a dramatic turn of events from the primary that two had in March. Trump branding Paxton, who tried to help him overturn the results of the 2020 election, a "true MAGA warrior" and calling Cornyn now "disloyal." It's now the fourth time in less than a month that the President has put his thumb on the scale in a primary to oust a Republican. John Cornyn, though, was not disloyal to President Trump in the Senate and was largely supportive. Paxton, for his part, has had a series of scandals that he has survived, including a push from his own Texas Republicans to impeach him over accusations of infidelity and corruption. He's denied any wrongdoing. He was later acquitted in the state Senate, but there were some Republicans who were angry with this choice by Trump concerned that it

could put this critical Senate seat in play and give an opening to the Democratic challenger here, James Talarico, who this morning is already courting Cornyn voters, and trying to flip that Senate seat blue for the first time in more than three decades, George.

(....)

8:00:25 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: High-Stakes Runoff; Trump-Backed Challenger Wins]

STEPHANOPOULOS: Texas-sized win for President Trump. Attorney General Ken Paxton ousts longtime Republican Senator John Cornyn in the high-stakes primary. Will that backfire for the GOP in November?

(....)

8:02:21 a.m.

1 minute and 30 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Texas-Sized Win]

STEPHANOPOULOS: We start with the voting in Texas last night that could have a big impact on the balance of power in the Senate. With a huge boost from President Trump, the state's controversial Attorney General, Ken Paxton, defeated incumbent Senator John Cornyn, a win that could boost Democrats come November. Jay O'Brien starts us off. Good morning, Jay.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking at 8; Trump-Backed Challenger Wins Texas Senate Runoff]

O'BRIEN: George, good morning again to you. This was a major Texas-sized win for President Trump, but there are concerns amongst some Republicans of the long-term impact it could have. Trump giving the last-minute endorsement to Texas has embattled Attorney General Ken Paxton allowing him to wallop that state's long-time Republican Senator, John Cornyn, in a much different vote outcome in that runoff overnight than the primary the two had in March. Trump branding Paxton, who tried to help him overturn the results of the 2020 election, a "true, MAGA warrior" and calling Cornyn "disloyal," but Paxton had survived a series of scandals, including an attempt from Texas Republicans to impeach him. He had been accused of infidelity, corruption. He's denied any wrongdoing in that impeachment effort. He was acquitted in the state Senate, and there were some Senate Republicans who were worried that by elevating Paxton, it could give a boost to the Democratic candidate in this race, State Representative James Talarico, who's built a juggernaut of a campaign and is reaching out this morning to Cornyn voters, trying to flip that Senate seat for the first time in more than three decades. Trump, for his part, is

congratulating Paxton this morning and promising that he will campaign for him ahead of November, Michael.

MICHAEL STRAHAN: All right, Jay, thank you for bringing that to us.