



AL GREEN WANTED TRUMP REMOVED, HOUSTON REMOVED HIM INSTEAD

Rep. Al Green spent years trying to make himself one of President Trump's loudest antagonists in Congress. On Tuesday night, Democrat voters in Houston decided they had seen enough.

Green's 21-year career came crashing down in the Texas 18th Congressional District primary runoff, where fellow Democrat Rep. Christian Menefee buried him by more than two-to-one. The Associated Press [called](#) the race for Menefee at 7:33 p.m. with an estimated 61 percent of the vote counted. Menefee had 21,678 votes, or 68.6 percent, while Green limped in with 9,930 votes, or 31.4 percent.

It was a humiliating end for Green, who spent much of the Trump era chasing impeachment headlines, staging floor protests and casting himself as a moral voice against the president. Instead, he was sent packing by his own party's voters in a race shaped by redistricting, generational change and the collapse of a longtime incumbent whose political act had clearly worn thin.

Menefee now advances as the Democrat nominee in the Houston-based district after entering Congress for the seat previously held by the late Rep. Sylvester Turner, who died in March 2025. Before that, Menefee served as Harris County attorney and became the county's first black county attorney after defeating an incumbent in 2020.

The runoff followed Texas Republicans' 2025 congressional map, which moved much of Green's longtime political base out of the 9th Congressional District and into the newly drawn 18th. Green and Rep. Jasmine Crockett tried to stop the map in federal court, arguing it unlawfully altered their districts. The Republican-led legislature approved the plan after an 88-52 House vote and an 18-11 Senate vote, while Gov. Greg Abbott praised the bill, saying it "ensures our maps reflect Texans' voting preferences."

For Green, the new map proved politically fatal. For Menefee, it opened the door.

Menefee's record still gives Republicans plenty to work with heading into November. As Harris County attorney, he fought Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's lawsuit over Harris County's \$1.35 million deportation defense fund, calling it "a cheap political stunt" after Paxton accused the county of illegally using taxpayer money to help fund legal defense for people facing deportation hearings.

In Congress, Menefee defended illegal aliens during a March 2026 "shadow hearing" hosted by Rep. Pramila Jayapal, saying, "These [illegal migrants] are folks who are our neighbors ... They do the jobs that keep our city running." He later joined a May 2026 delegation to the Dilley Immigration Processing Center, where he accused ICE of "kidnapping folks in the middle of the night."

Menefee and Green also landed on the same side of a revealing foreign policy vote in March 2026, when both were among 53 House Democrats who opposed a resolution stating that Iran remains the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism. The measure passed 372-53, with two Democrats voting present.

But Green's loss will be remembered less for policy than for the spectacle that defined his final stretch in Congress. In March 2025, he interrupted President Trump's address to Congress by standing, waving his cane and yelling after Trump said he had a mandate from voters. Speaker Mike Johnson ordered the sergeant-at-arms to remove him from the chamber, and the House later voted 224-198-2 to censure Green, with 10 Democrats joining Republicans. A CNN poll found that 80 percent of viewers thought Green's outburst was inappropriate.

Green also repeatedly tried to impeach Trump, only to watch his own party help bury the efforts. In June 2025, he filed an article of impeachment over Trump's strikes on Iranian nuclear sites. The House tabled it 344-79, with 128 Democrats joining every Republican. In December 2025, he tried again, and the House rejected that push too, voting 237-140 to table it.

Green leaned even harder into race in February 2026 after being removed from Trump's State of the Union address. During that episode, he held a sign reading "BLACK PEOPLE AREN'T APES," aimed at a deleted Truth Social post spoofing The Lion King with Democrats' faces placed on characters, including Michelle and Barack Obama as primates. Outside the chamber, Green compared himself to Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks and said he would do it again.

Voters apparently had a different idea.

By Tuesday night, Green was not just beaten. He was embarrassed. Menefee's landslide ended the career of one of Congress' most theatrical Trump foes, a lawmaker who built his national brand on impeachment crusades and chamber disruptions only to lose his seat in a Democrat runoff by nearly 37 points.

After years of trying to remove President Trump from office, Green is the one leaving Washington.