



Caption ↓

Rep. Moody wears Tupac, Notorious B.I.G. socks in name of ‘bipartisanship’

Aug 08, 2017
By Rachel Cohrs



Texas Rep. Joe Moody took to Twitter to show off his, well, distinctive sock choice ahead of another day of the Legislature’s special session Tuesday.



**Joe Moody**

@moodyforelpasso

In the spirit of [#bipartisanship](#) I'm wearing these socks to the House floor today. [#txlege](#) [#SpecialSession](#) [#2Pac](#) [#NotoriousBIG](#)

10:21 AM - Aug 8, 2017

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This hosiery choice makes quite a fashion statement — Do you see that bandanna on the Tupac sock? — but Moody, an El Paso Democrat, claims he’s making a different kind of statement. “Sock diplomacy” has become somewhat of a trend (we’re looking at you, Justin Trudeau), and in this case, Moody says he’s standing for bipartisanship.

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The choice of hip-hop superstars Tupac Shakur and The Notorious B.I.G. to represent the lofty ideal of political cooperation is interesting, considering the history between the two.

’Pac and Biggie’s transition from friends to deadly adversaries who embodied the East Coast-West Coast hip-hop rivalry of the 1990s is traced in this Vice article. The short version: B.I.G. (aka Christopher Wallace) used to sleep on Shakur’s couch and asked the West Coast rapper to help him with his music career at one point, Ben Westhoff writes. However, the relationship later soured after Shakur was shot, beaten and robbed in 1994 and believed B.I.G. knew about it beforehand, according to the article.

B.I.G. was killed in a shooting less than one year later. The rivalry between the two divided hip-hop fans, a conflict that could be interpreted in this case as a sock-bound symbol for political polarization in Texas.

During the Texas Legislature's special session, bipartisanship has been scarce. An American-Statesman survey showed wide Democratic support for just two of the 20 agenda items Gov. Greg Abbott asked the Legislature to address.

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On Monday, Moody executed a stalling maneuver on a bill that would require resident approval for a city to annex nearby property. The bill will return to committee. Before the setback, the annexation bill could have been the first of Abbott's priorities to pass out of both chambers.

"I don't think it keeps it from passing, ultimately, but this gives us time to work on it and negotiate around it," Moody said.



Chuck Lindell

@chucklindell

Speaker rejects point of order by @moodyforelpaso to block abortion insurance bill. Vote coming. #txlege

3:19 PM - Aug 8, 2017

[See Chuck Lindell's other Tweets](#)

On Tuesday, the day Moody tweeted about wearing his spirited socks, he tried to block another Abbott priority with a point of order. However, that attempt was blocked by House Speaker Joe Straus. The House went on to give initial approval to a ban on abortion coverage in many insurance plans.

Regardless of the politics, Moody might be able to get bipartisan agreement that he has a pretty impressive sock collection.