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Sen. Campbell Joins Governor Abbott for Signing of Border Security Bill

"A state cannot effectively govern itself without governing its borders."

Austin -- State Senator Donna Campbell, Chair of the Senate Veteran Affairs and Military Installations Committee, which oversees the Border Security Subcommittee, joined Governor Abbott at today's signing ceremony for House Bill 11 and other border security related legislation.

"A state cannot effectively govern itself without governing its borders. While President Obama and the federal government have failed to do their job, state lawmakers have stepped up our efforts to boost border security with an additional \$800 million in funding," Senator Campbell stated. "I cannot thank Lt. Governor Patrick and Governor Abbott enough for their leadership on this important issue."

Under the provisions of HB 11, the Texas Department of Public Safety will be able to hire and train 250 new troopers, purchase surveillance aircraft, and build a new state-of-the-art transnational intelligence center to enhance communication between law enforcement agencies working along the border. The bill also gives the Attorney General authority to establish a transnational organized crime division and creates task forces to address human trafficking and gang violence that spill across the border.

"By securing the border and encouraging a safe, legal, and orderly immigration system in which the rule of law is paramount, we can protect the very ideals that make the United States a beacon of hope to over one million legal immigrants every year. The safety of our communities and the sovereignty of our state depend on a secure border," Sen. Campbell concluded.

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Senator Donna Campbell is a practicing emergency room physician who represents Senate District 25, including parts of Austin and San Antonio. She serves as the Chairwoman of the Veteran Affairs and Military Installations Committee and lives in New Braunfels.