



STATE SENATOR  
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## Senator Lucio Draws Four-Year Term

**AUSTIN** - Today, the Texas Senate drew lots to determine when the next election would take place for Senate districts. Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. (D-Brownsville) remains the officeholder of Senate District 27 through 2016. Elected in 1991, Lucio is fourth in seniority in the Texas Senate.

"I am elated to continue serving the Rio Grande Valley through this and the next Legislative Session," Sen. Lucio said. "I also look forward to continuing work on improving higher education opportunities in South Texas and meeting with stakeholders from across the state in building a better Texas."

Pursuant to the provisions of [Article III, Section 3](#), of the Texas Constitution, Texas' 31 senators serve four-year terms. However, the Constitution also requires that each decade, after the redistricting process by which legislators redraw political boundary lines, Senators be divided in half, with one half of the membership serving an initial two-year term and the other half serving a four-year term. The goal of this provision is to stagger senators' terms so that one half of the Senate membership is elected biennially.

Pursuant to a Senate resolution adopted by the members, lots were drawn by lottery. The Secretary of the Senate prepared 31 slips of paper with numbers printed upon them. These slips of paper were placed in sealed envelopes. The members of the Senate were then called in alphabetical order and asked to randomly draw an envelope. Those members who picked a slip of paper with an even number printed upon it had drawn a two-year term. Those senators who drew an odd number, including Senator Lucio, drew a four-year term.

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