

RGV Delegation Opposes Presidential Declaration

Austin, TX – Senator Eddie Lucio (D-Brownsville), congratulates the Rio Grande Valley members of the House of Representatives and Sen. Hinojosa for expressing opposition to the President’s declared national emergency, releasing billions of dollars in federal funds to construct a wall along the US-Mexico Border.

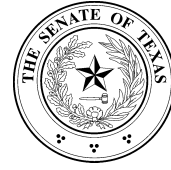
“The National Emergencies Act is designed for special powers in times of crisis both foreign and domestic. I’m principally opposed to the use of such ability to circumvent Congress’ authority as a co-equal branch of government,” said Lucio. “The wall does not reflect the bi-cultural, bi-national values of border Texans, and I commend my colleagues for the firm stance on this issue.”

Sen. Lucio further stated, “I support legal immigration, I support asylum for victims of harm, I support the strong presence of law enforcement to prevent illegal activity, and I support continued state investment for border security. I do not support a border wall.”

The full statement by the RGV Delegation is available below.



TEXAS STATE LEGISLATURE
RIO GRANDE VALLEY DELEGATION



News Release

For Immediate Release

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For more information, please contact the undersigned Rio Grande Valley legislative offices:

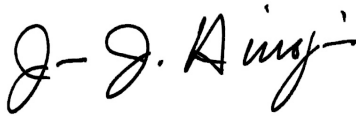
The Rio Grande Valley Delegation of the Texas Legislature stands opposed to President Donald Trump's declaration of an emergency for a non-existent border crisis. We are concerned that this latest effort by the president to propagandize the situation on the Texas-Mexico border only seeks to misconstrue the current situation on the border, and could actually lead to federal dollars being moved away from proven strategies of border control to solutions that are being driven by the politics of our president.

President Trump was elected on a campaign promise to build a border wall, without using taxpayer dollars. He has failed to accomplish that promise. President Trump spent the first two years of his presidency with control of both houses of Congress, yet failed to reach any solution working within his own party.

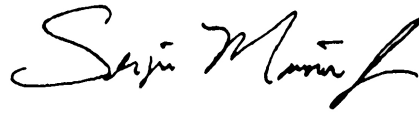
As border Texans, we are worried that this contrived national emergency could entail the taking of private property through eminent domain. We are concerned that the current process for eminent domain will not properly protect the rights of Texans, many of them who have owned this property since before the founding of this great state.

We hope and pray for a time when Washington D.C. works more closely with communities on the border, to deal with the very real problems in our current immigration system and border security strategy. Yet, we will not support President Trump's attacks on the border when the cities we represent are some of the safest in the country.

Sincerely,



Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa
District 20



Representative Sergio Muñoz, Jr.,
District 36



Representative Ryan Guillen
District 36



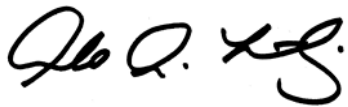
Representative Oscar Longoria
District 35



Representative Eddie Lucio III
District 38



Representative Terry Canales
District 40



Representative Armando "Mando" Martinez
District 39



Representative Alex Dominguez
District 37



Representative Bobby Guerra
District 41