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## Senator César J. Blanco Passes Bipartisan Legislation to Provide Financial Assistance to Ranchers & Farmers

**Austin, Texas** – Today, the Texas Senate unanimously passed Senate Bill 1133, to establish a program under the Office of the Attorney General to help farmers and ranchers who suffer property damage because of border-related bailouts, human trafficking, and smuggling crimes.

## **Senator Blanco issued the following statement:**

"Across Far West Texas I have listened to countless farmers and ranchers who have experienced significant and costly property damage from trafficking and smuggling activity along the Texas border and in rural communities. Many of them have shared their struggles with rising costs of insurance claim costs and have no other option but to rely on personal savings for their property losses. Senate Bill 1133 will relieve our hard-working farmers and ranchers of the financial burden of costly repairs, allowing them to continue putting food on the table for families across America."

## <u>Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) issued the following statement:</u>

"As private property owners, ranchers are often responsible for damages and expenses incurred from trespassers and criminal acts on their land. This reality exists throughout the state and is especially prominent along the border right now. TSCRA appreciates Senator Blanco and Senator Kolkhorst's attention to the difficulties ranchers face and are thankful for their work to provide relief to landowners. We look forward to working with both Senators and their respective offices on this issue."

## Russell Boening, President of the Texas Farm Bureau also issued the following statement:

"With the unprecedented influx of migrants at our southern borders, farm, and ranch families are bearing the brunt of damaged crops and property. The Texas Farm Bureau is grateful to Senator Blanco, Senator Kolkhorst, and other authors for addressing this issue and gathering bipartisan support to protect our farmers and ranchers."

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