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The Senate of Texas

César J. Blanco texas senator district 29

Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 8, 2023 Contact: Taylor Sanchez 915.276.3872 Taylor.sanchez@senate.texas.gov

Governor Abbot Signs Legislation by Senator César J. Blanco to Provide Financial Assistance to Ranchers & Farmers

Austin, Texas – Today, Governor Greg Abbott ceremonially signed into law Senate Bill 1133 authored by Senator César J. Blanco. SB1133 will establish a program under the Office of the Attorney General to compensate farmers and ranchers for property damage due to border-related bailouts, human trafficking, and smuggling crimes. Senator Blanco also secured \$36 million in the state budget to fund this new program.

Senator Blanco issued the following statement:

"With increased trafficking and smuggling along the Texas border and in rural communities, ranchers and farmers have reported significant financial losses and property damage to their fences, crops, livestock, equipment, and other property.

"I was proud to author and pass SB1133 to support Texas ranchers and farmers. With this bill and the \$36 million we secured in the state budget, hard-working farmers and ranchers will now have the financial support from the State of Texas to recover from border-related crimes so they can get back to delivering food, fiber, and fuel across the state and country.

"I thank Governor Abbott for signing this important piece of legislation into law!"

For further information, please contact Taylor Sanchez at 915-276-3872 or Taylor.Sanchez@senate.texas.gov.

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Senator César J. Blanco is a US Navy Veteran and proudly represents the people of Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Pecos, Presidio, and Reeves counties in the Texas Senate. In the 88th Texas Legislature, Senator Blanco serves as a member of the Senate Committees on Health & Human Services; Natural Resources & Economic Development; Water, Agriculture, & Rural Affairs; Veteran Affairs; and Border Security. Senator Blanco also serves as Vice-Chair of the Senate Hispanic Caucus. He has been named a Best Legislator by Texas Monthly Magazine.