



RYAN GUILLEN

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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 25, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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GUILLEN SPEAKS AT JIM HOGG ISD

Guillen Will Join Teachers And Administrators In Looking At Education Issues

AUSTIN- Representative Ryan Guillen (D- Rural South Texas) spoke at the Jim Hogg County Independent School district today. He joined educational staff during their professional work day, and provided a legislative overview of education issues such as accountability, school finance, and rural education.

"I am excited to meet with the educators of Jim Hogg County ISD," said Guillen. "They are pillars in their community. Discussing education policy with them is the first step in improving the system here in South Texas, which I look forward to doing next session."

Guillen discussed the Texas legislature's newly implemented method of school district accountability in the 85th legislative session. This system of grading districts, commonly referred to as "A-F," evaluates student achievement, student progress, and closing educational gaps. It reformed the state's old A-F accountability system to make it more fair to the schools. Guillen is working to make sure this grading scale is fair to schools in South Texas, and is looking forward to fixing any concerns that schools in his district have.

Representative Guillen also took the opportunity to discuss school finance with Jim Hogg County educators. Last year, Guillen was an author of HB 21, which initially provided over \$1 billion in additional state funding for public schools as it passed the House. The Senate dramatically changed the bill, resulting in the passage of a modified version which secured additional funding for special education programs for students with autism and dyslexia, and it created a grant program to help school districts that lost funding due to the expiration of the Additional State Aid for Tax Reduction (ASATR) program. Representative Guillen and others in the House managed to keep in the modified bill important provisions to increase funding for bilingual education programs, expand Career and Technology Education offerings, and eliminate the small school adjustment which penalized small rural schools. Guillen is looking forward to next session, where he intends to continue his fight to improve school funding, specifically for rural districts.

"Education is our future, and I will continue to do everything I can to support Texas students and educators," said Guillen.



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Serving ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, Ryan Guillen is known for his hard work, fierce independence, and relentless efforts for South Texas families. Recently, Capitol Inside called him a “House Bill Machine,” and a “one-person assembly line for legislation.” Since elected, few other legislators have passed more bills than Guillen. Sign up for updates at ryanguillen.com, [facebook.com/representative.guillen](https://www.facebook.com/representative.guillen), and twitter.com/ryanguillen

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