



RYAN GUILLEN

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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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GUILLEN HELPS PASS BILL IN HOUSE TO IMPROVE OVERSIGHT OF FEDERAL FUNDS

H.B. 367 Increases The Transparency Of Federal Funds

AUSTIN - Representative Ryan Guillen (D - Rural South Texas) is an author of H.B. 367, which passed out of the House this week, and requires federal money to be deposited in separate accounts rather than mixed with state funds. As such, it increases transparency into how the funds are used, and ensures they are used for their specific purposes.

“Our practice of dumping federal money with state money into the general revenue fund makes it difficult to keep track of where our state money is,” said Guillen. “By separating the money we will have a better idea of what we can spend and what we can spend it on.”

The federal government distributes funding to Texas for many specific programs and services, such as Medicaid, and the money is generally only eligible to be spent on its intended program or service. Currently, federal and state dollars are mixed together in the general revenue fund (GR), which is the main source of funding for state programs and can generally be spent on any program. This is misleading because the state decides how much to spend and on what programs based on how much money is in GR, but up to 30% of the funds in GR are federal and can only be used on specific programs. H.B. 367 requires federal money be administered separate from the general revenue fund. This ensures that federal money is being managed accurately and that the state knows how much money it has available to spend.

“Texas must be more vigilant and transparent in our accounting, so that we can use our funds in the most effective and efficient way possible,” said Guillen.

This bill would take immediate effect if passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership elected to each house. Otherwise, it would take effect on the 91st day after the last day of the special session.

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, and twitter.com/ryanguillen

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