



RYAN GUILLEN

★
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 27, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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UNPAID TOLL FEES AND FINES WAIVED

Guillen Supports TxDOT's Decision, Texas Infrastructure Still Needs Work

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) announced last Wednesday at the House Transportation Committee that it will waive fines and late fees owed since 2007. Representative Ryan Guillen (D – Rural South Texas) is supportive of TxDOT's decision, and will continue to follow any and all efforts made to improve Texas' infrastructure and transportation systems.

"TxDOT has done a great service for Texas drivers," Guillen says. "Yet we must not lose sight of improving our infrastructure and transportation systems that need still further attention."

Due to the cap on fees imposed by the Legislature last year, TxDOT will waive more than \$1.3 billion in fines and late fees owed by those who drove on certain toll roads since 2007. The announcement was made by Executive Director James Bass of TxDOT at the House Transportation Committee meeting. He also stated that the \$147 billion underlying toll costs still owed by drivers would not be affected by this new bill. While the new law has already gone into effect, customers owing fees and fines might not see the changes immediately online but will on the next invoice they receive. Drivers must also keep in mind that the new law only applies to tolls incurred on TxDOT operated roads, and not toll ways operated by other agencies.

Guillen is pleased that there has been more focus on infrastructure and transportation as of late, and continues to be a consistent supporter of road funding for Texas and his district. While he recognizes that major roads are important, he hopes more funding can be allocated to repair local roads, especially for those in South Texas that incur damage from the energy industry and its use of local roads in transporting oil. Since he has been in office, Guillen has helped direct over \$2 billion in road funding to District 31. He was also an author of a bill which secured \$175 million specifically for roads in colonias.

"Texas is a big state, and District 31 is a big district," said Guillen. "We need all the road funding we can get to make sure that South Texans can access everything they need like their jobs, schools, and hospitals."

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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