



**RYAN GUILLEN**  
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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
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## **HEARING SCHEDULED TO EXTEND ARMED SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP USE**

*Measure Allows for More Students to be Eligible for Scholarship*

**AUSTIN** - Texas State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) filed HB 66 to allow eligible candidates for the four-year Armed Services Scholarship to be named to replace awardees who lose their eligibility for the scholarship. A public hearing on HB 66 has been scheduled to take place on **March 15, 2017**.

**"There's always an individual next in line who is deserving of these scholarship funds," Guillen stated. "If an award recipient washes out, we should make use of the balance of that scholarship and let the highly qualified alternates have their chance to benefit from the Armed Services Scholarship."**

Each year the governor, lieutenant governor, state senator, and state representative can appoint students to receive the Armed Services Scholarship. The Award amount can be up to \$5,000 per student per semester for all four years, and is quite a prestigious achievement for anyone who is granted the funding. Currently, if a student for any reason loses their scholarship eligibility, there is no process to allow another student to be appointed in their place. HB 66 seeks to change this issue in order to allow other eligible students to access this opportunity.

On March 15, 2017, HB 66 is scheduled for a hearing in the Defense and Veteran Affairs Committee. Representative Guillen believes this bill will ensure that scholarship funds would go to qualified students and not be wasted.

Ryan Guillen serves ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, including Atascosa, Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Starr, and Willacy.

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