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GUILLEN HOPES TO LOWER TAXES FOR FAMILIES OF FALLEN FIRST RESPONDERS

Constitutional Amendment on November Ballot to Reduce Tax Burden on First Responders

AUSTIN - Representative Ryan Guillen (D- Rural South Texas) was a sponsor of SJR 1, which gives Texans the opportunity to amend the Texas Constitution this November to reduce the tax burden on families of first responders lost in the line of duty.

"First responders risk their lives to protect our communities," said Guillen. "So we must do all that we can to take care of their families if, God forbid, they fall in the line of duty."

Under current law, surviving spouses of deceased veterans are exempt from most property taxes. SJR 1 is a constitutional amendment that would allow the state to extend the same well-deserved property tax exemption given to surviving spouses of veterans to surviving spouses of first responders. Because this motion seeks to amend the Texas Constitution, it requires voter approval, and therefore it is vital that Texans show up at the polls to perform their civic duty. The measure is Proposition 6 on the November ballot.

Information regarding polling station locations and hours can be found on votetexas.gov and the Texas Secretary of State's website. Election day is November 7, 2017, but early voting starts on October 23, 2017. If approved by voters, the amendment would take effect January 1, 2018.

"Voting is a great responsibility that the nation has given its citizens, and I hope that everyone shows up to vote this November, especially for something as critical as Proposition 6," Guillen added.

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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