

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** APRIL 19, 2018

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#### GUILLEN APPLAUDS HEALTHY SOUTH TEXAS PROGRAM

Representative Guillen Advocates For Increasing Awareness Of Preventative Healthcare Solutions

**AUSTIN** - Representative Ryan Guillen (D - Rural South Texas) takes time this week to applaud Texas A&M College of Medicine and their continued work on their pilot program, Healthy South Texas. Dr. Carrie Byington, Dean of the Texas A&M College of Medicine, recently announced the addition of new graduate programs in Medicine and Engineering, which will allow students to graduate as a Doctor of Medicine or with a Master's Degree in Engineering, respectively.

"I am pleased to see Texas A&M improve the Healthy South Texas pilot program," said Guillen. "This initiative demonstrates that partnering medical experts with communities can produce an effective solution with positive results."

Healthy South Texas is a pilot program of Healthy Texas with the mission of reducing high impact diseases and their consequences in a 27-county region in South Texas. The program combines the Texas A&M University Health Science Center and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services to provide resources and knowledge to families within the area. One of the programs offered is the Diabetes Control Program, which educates citizens on diabetes self-management and nutrition. Other programs offered include asthma management education and distribution of Zika prevention kits.

Guillen has been an advocate for increasing health funding and improving the everyday lives of Texans. Recently, Guillen authored legislation which brought a top-tier medical school to the Valley in UTRGV. He also helped pass legislation that capped prescription drug copay costs, offered employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and increased accessibility and affordability of telehealth services.

"Improving healthcare for all Texans is essential. The Healthy South Texas program is a great leap forward in the right direction. I will continue to support this and other initiatives that seek to improve the health of our citizens," said Guillen.

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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