



RYAN GUILLEN
★
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 23, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
COREY.TICKNOR@HOUSE.TEXAS.GOV

GUILLEN ENHANCES PROPERTY DAMAGE REIMBURSEMENT

New Bill will Protect Innocent Property Owners from the Actions of Criminals

AUSTIN - State Representative Ryan Guillen (D—Rural South Texas) has filed HB 2306 to allow law enforcement agencies to pay for repairs, and to be reimbursed, when a car being pursued is driven onto private property and abandoned and it damages fences or other assets on the land.

"The past few years there have been many instances of criminals causing property damage and abandoning vehicles on private property," said Guillen. "Local law enforcement is currently burdened with removing, towing and auction of the vehicles involved."

In the event of criminals being pursued abandoning vehicles on private homeowners' property and causing property damage in the process, legislation was passed in recent years allowing law enforcement to remove, tow and auction the vehicle and use the revenue to pay for those services.

Currently, the law enforcement is not eligible for reimbursement for paying for a homeowner's property damage. HB 2306 would allow law enforcement agencies to be reimbursed by the same funds for providing compensation to property owners whose property is damaged by an abandoned vehicle.

"The process to reimburse citizens for vehicle-caused property damage is in need of further improvement," said Guillen. "With this bill we can take the undue burden off the citizens and law enforcement in our Texas communities."

Representative 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.

###