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GUILLEN ENSURES FOOD GOES TO HUNGRY, NOT TO WASTE

S.B. 725 Creates Program That Helps Reduce Waste in Schools

AUSTIN - Representative Ryan Guillen (D- Rural South Texas) is pleased to announce that S.B. 725 took effect at the beginning of this school year. Guillen was a sponsor of the bill, which allows schools to offer un-eaten cafeteria meals to hungry kids rather than throwing them away.

"It is extremely important that our children are well-fed and taken care of," said Guillen. "This measure will reduce waste in our school cafeterias and help kids who need it the most."

It is vital that all children attend school without worrying if they'll be able to eat. Every day, many Texas school kids go without lunch because their parents cannot afford it, and schools are left with a lot of uneaten food. This left over food often ends up just being thrown away. Rep. Guillen saw this as a wasted opportunity to feed hungry kids.

S.B. 725 helps feed kids by allowing school districts to donate un-eaten food to a non-profit run at the school. This non-profit just needs to be sponsored by someone associated with the school, such as a teacher or a counselor. The school can choose to donate food to its students through surplus meals prepared during breakfast, lunch, or snack times, or the school can donate food to the non-profit via food drive.

"There is no reason to let good food go to waste. It's past time that our schools' un-eaten food goes to the hungry and not the trash," said Guillen.

Representative Guillen was also an author of the House version of this legislation, H.B. 367.

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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