



RYAN GUILLEN
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 7, 2017

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GUILLEN WORKS TO IMPROVE TEXAS' HISTORIC SITES

HB 2393 Heard by the Ways & Means Committee, Awaits a Vote

AUSTIN - Texas State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) is pushing legislation to assist communities with qualifying historic sites to undergo necessary restorations, renovations, and/or improvements. A public hearing on HB 2393 was held on **Wednesday, April 5.**

"Texas is home to a long list of historical sites, many of which are badly in need of renovations, restorations, and improvements," said Guillen. "Our bill will give a state level insurance tax credit to qualifying historic sites, helping to preserve them for future generations of Texans to enjoy."

The US Department of Interior gives a special 20% tax credit to historic sites that are being renovated and qualify as "certified rehabilitations." To qualify, projects must meet certain guidelines including but not limited to: being used for its historic purpose, preserving its historic character, and being recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Additionally, the State of Texas will provide a small franchise tax credit for qualifying sites.

Currently, the US Department of Interior tax credits are limited and the state franchise tax credits only cover a small percentage of the costs. Many of Texas' historic sites in need of renovations are not receiving significant tax relief, and are often unable to accomplish their needed improvements. Guillen seeks to lessen the burden on Texas historic sites by including insurance premium tax credits to the programs incentives, so those struggling historic sites can receive the funding necessary for them to thrive.

"By expanding Texas' Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, the state can help preserve crippled historic sites, and we can make sure that these important parts of Texas history receive the maintenance they deserve," said Representative Guillen.

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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