

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** FEBRUARY 14, 2017

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

## GUILLEN DISCUSSES PRIORITIES WITH TEXAS MILITARY

Addressing Issues Important to Texas Military



**AUSTIN** - Texas State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) met with the Texas State Guard (TXSG) Major General John F. Nichols, Chief of Staff Colonel Greg Chaney and Major Malcom Warbrick to discuss their needs to respond quickly to state disasters and to assist their fellow Texans.

"The Texas military is an invaluable resource for communities in Texas and is always there to aid the citizens of Texas when they are in need of assistance. Protecting the interests of our Texas men and women in uniform is a top priority for me," said Representative Guillen.

Organized in 1871, the Texas State Guard has long history of providing mission-ready military forces to assist state and local authorities in times of state emergencies. Specifically, the Texas State Guard provides the Governor and the President with ready forces to conduct homeland security and community service activities under the umbrella of Defense Support to Civil Authorities. Guillen, who also serves in the Texas State Guard, is focused on ensuring the State Guard is "fully engaged with our communities, and has the equipment and training needed to do their jobs."

During their discussion, Guillen listened to the State Guard leaders' concerns on issues like deferred maintenance of buildings, adequate funding for needed repairs and equipment, and staffing for community engagement.

"As an American and a Texan, I have the highest respect for the men and women who protect our freedoms, at home and abroad," Guillen said, "and I am determined to assist the Texas military in any way that I can to keep them functioning at the highest level of efficiency."

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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