



RYAN GUILLEN

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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 28, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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GUILLEN HELPS EXPAND SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

Starr County Campus Opens New Buildings

AUSTIN - As a strong supporter of more educational and workforce training opportunities for all South Texans, Representative Ryan Guillen (D - Rural South Texas) is pleased that his efforts in supporting the growth of South Texas College (STC) have resulted in a new addition to the Starr County campus.

"Higher education improves the livelihood of people in our communities in a way that nothing else can," said Representative Guillen. "That is why we've worked hard to make sure that the people of South Texas have access to higher education and workforce training opportunities."

Since the opening of STC, Starr County has seen a large increase in the number of people pursuing a degree or vocational training. This expansion will allow STC's Starr County Campus to keep up with the increase of interested students and serve more people in the community. The expansion to the Starr county campus includes: an improved student services building, improvements and additions to the workforce training center, a new library, and a brand new Health Professions and Science Building, including an Energy Institute that will be used to train the next generation of professionals in the oil, gas, and renewable energy fields.

"The oil, gas, and renewable energy industries are tremendously valuable to South Texas," said Guillen. "These industries provide good jobs to so many South Texas families, and this institute will train the next generation of oil, gas, and renewable energy workers. I am excited for the many opportunities this new Starr County campus will bring."

Guillen has been a strong advocate for education and the opportunities it creates for the people in South Texas. Since he has been in office, he has worked hard to increase STC's budget. In recent years, STC's state funding grew by \$20 million to its current total of over \$80 million. Guillen's efforts to increase educational and workforce opportunities have also been successful. Since 2003, Starr County's unemployment rate has decreased from 21.5% to 8%, and average yearly wages have gone up by 8%.

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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