

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 8, 2010

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor
State of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

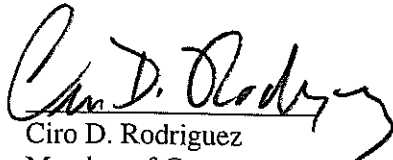
Securing our borders and our homeland is a top priority and responsibility for us all. Like you, we believe keeping our border communities safe is of critical importance especially considering the ongoing drug war in our neighboring Mexico. We believe we will only be successful in maintaining a secure border when a well-coordinated partnership that includes federal, state and local law enforcement operations is in place. To that end, we urge you to direct as much federal funding received by the State to our border region.

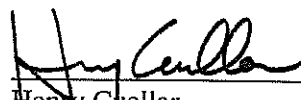
As you know, the State of Texas receives annual federal funding from the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP). Texas has been awarded an average of \$125 million a year over the last four years, with the border receiving as little as 3% of those funds each year. We believe border communities are not receiving their fair share of homeland security funding provided to Texas. We strongly urge you to utilize these federal funds toward border security efforts.

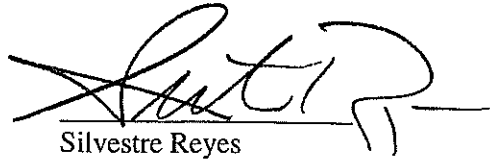
As border members of our Congressional delegation, we have led the fight in Congress for additional resources for border security. We have met or exceeded our goal of maintaining Border Patrol agents at 20,000 and are leading the effort to increase both staff and infrastructure resources at our ports of entry. We also expanded and significantly increased funding for Operation Stonegarden, which has provided a dedicated source of federal funding (\$60 million annually) from the Department of Homeland Security for local law enforcement operations on the border. Our border law enforcement agencies in Texas have benefited tremendously from Stonegarden funding.

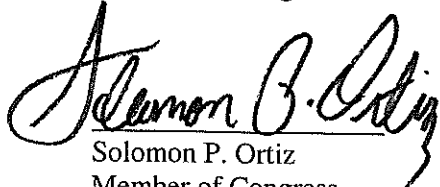
While we continue to fight in Congress to ensure Texas gets its fair share of federal funding, we hope the State would in turn allocate the funding where it is most needed. Please feel free to contact us directly with any questions.

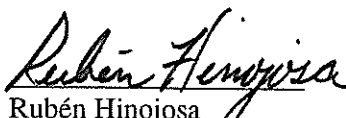
Sincerely,


Ciro D. Rodriguez
Member of Congress


Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress


Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress


Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress


Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress