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## **Historic Tax Relief Legislation Passes Texas Senate**

**Austin, Texas** – Today, the Texas Senate unanimously passed two bills joint-authored by Senator César J. Blanco, Senate Bill 3 and Senate Bill 5, to provide \$4.3 billion in property tax relief and \$1.5 billion in small-business tax relief.

"Providing economic security to the families and communities of Far West Texas is a top priority for me this session," said Senator Blanco. "Owning a home is part of the American Dream, but skyrocketing property taxes have made that dream unachievable for many Texans. I was proud to joint-author these bills to help ensure homeowners have the opportunity to attain this dream and keep food on the table for their families."

Senate Bill 3 will raise the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$70,000 for homeowners. For those over 65 or disabled, the exemption will be increased to \$100,000. Additionally, Senate Bill 5 establishes an inventory tax credit and a universal tax exemption of \$25,000 of the appraised value of business personal property to cut business costs.

Senator Blanco also added, "Homeowners and business owners alike are feeling the pinch and need tax relief and economic security. Mom-and-pop small businesses are the backbones of our community, and by providing tax relief to local businesses, we will help create jobs, and boost our local economy. While these two bills only provide relief for homeowners and small businesses, I will continue working for equitable tax relief for all Texans, including decreasing the sales tax rate."

Senate Bill 3 and Senate Bill 5 now head to the Texas House of Representatives.

For further information, please contact Taylor Sanchez at 915-276-3872 or <u>Taylor.Sanchez@senate.texas.gov</u>.

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Senator César J. Blanco is a US Navy Veteran and proudly represents the people of Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Pecos, Presidio, and Reeves counties in the Texas Senate. In the 88<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, Senator Blanco serves as a member of the Senate Committees on Health & Human Services; Natural Resources & Economic Development; Water, Agriculture, & Rural Affairs; Veteran Affairs; and Border Security. He has been named a Best Legislator by Texas Monthly Magazine.