CAPITOL OFFICE: ROOM GE.7 P.O. Box 12068 Austin, Texas 78711 (512) 463-0129



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DISTRICT OFFICE:

416 N. Stanton St.

(915) 577-0029

Suite 700 El Paso, TX 79901

915.276.3872

Taylor.sanchez@senate.texas.gov

Statement on the Expiration of Title 42

"With the expiration of the Federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 today, Title 42 also ends. Title 42 was never an immigration solution, it was a temporary public health law.

"Unfortunately, the Biden Administration inherited a badly broken immigration system, and Title 42, implemented under the Trump Administration, was nothing more than a band-aid during COVID to address the unprecedented global migration challenge brought about by the pandemic, poverty, and war.

"Now more than ever, we need Congress to act to provide a modern and permanent solution to our broken immigration system that reflects our American values and strengthens our economy.

"The American people by overwhelming margins support balanced solutions that provide strong border security measures AND humane, civil and decent approaches to opening up more pathways to citizenship and legalization for asylum seekers, refugees, Dreamers, migrants fleeing from war, danger and natural disasters, and the 11 million people here without papers who pay taxes, own businesses and are the backbone of so many of our country's industries.

"With the end of Title 42, our border communities are bracing for a humanitarian crisis that requires a humanitarian response. I applaud the City of El Paso, El Paso County, and our local NGOs and dioceses for their work and preparation for a looming humanitarian crisis. However, local resources are stretched thin and we need a whole-of-government response to support our border communities on the front lines receiving the influx of migrants. At the state level, I will continue fighting for the humanitarian resources and support our locals need from state government."

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