

The Senate of The State of Texas



BRIAN BIRDWELL

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**SENATOR BIRDWELL COMMENTS ON DENIAL OF FEMA ASSISTANCE FOR WEST**

AUSTIN—The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has declined the request of the State of Texas to provide financial assistance in the wake of the fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas on April 17, 2013. State Senator Brian Birdwell expressed his disappointment with the following statement:

“I was stunned at the news that FEMA had deemed the devastation in West to be lacking of the ‘severity and magnitude’ necessary for federal support.

“Along with damaging or destroying the schools and local infrastructure on which the West community relies, this incident took the lives of 15 citizens and injured countless others—the very people President Obama promised his administration would stand behind.

“As I pledged to Mayor Muska this afternoon, I look forward to working with Governor Rick Perry, Congressman Bill Flores and U.S. Senators Cornyn and Cruz to ensure this egregious decision is appealed and ultimately reversed.”

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Brian Birdwell is a native Texan, decorated military veteran, lifelong conservative Republican, survivor of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon, and a proud husband and father. He currently represents the Bosque, Ellis, Falls, Hill, Hood, Johnson, McLennan, Navarro, Somervell and Tarrant [partial] Counties in Senate District 22.

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