

The Senate of The State of Texas Senator José Menéndez

District 26

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Senator José Menéndez's Statement on Governor Abbott signing House Bill 2968 'the Alamo bill'

Austin, Texas - Today State Senator José Menéndez joined Governor Greg Abbott for the signing of House Bill 2968, also known as "The Alamo Bill". This historic piece of legislation, along with the \$32 million appropriation will ensure the Alamo will be preserved for generations. House Bill 2968, which Senator Menéndez sponsored, will create a partnership between the General Land Office and the City of San Antonio to develop the Alamo complex into a world-class iconic site. It also revamped the advisory board so everyone that has a vested interest in the Alamo has a seat at the table.

"For most Texans the Alamo is sacred ground," Menéndez said. "One of my top priorities coming into this session was to secure funds and legislation for the preservation of Alamo - the shrine of Texas liberty. I am grateful for the support from Land Commissioner George P. Bush, my Senate colleagues, and my friends in the House, and I am proud the Governor is signing House Bill 2968. By working together we secured the largest amount of money ever to the General Land Office for the Alamo and passed commonsense legislation that will preserve and protect this Texas icon."

This legislation and appropriation will serve as a catalyst for the UNESCO World Heritage Designation which the Alamo is applying for later this summer. The UNESCO designation will allow the five San Antonio missions to have international acclaim and recognition. It would also drive significant tourist dollars to the local economy.

"The Alamo belongs to every Texan," Menéndez said. "Our goal with this bill and the \$32 million investment is to make sure it stays that way. This historic action will make certain that tens of millions more visitors will 'Remember the Alamo'."

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