



The Senate of Texas

CÉSAR J. BLANCO

TEXAS SENATOR
DISTRICT 29

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Senator César J. Blanco and Representative Joe Moody Pass Legislation to Extend Safety-Net Healthcare in El Paso

Austin, Texas – The Texas House of Representatives has passed Senate Bill 849, a bill authored by Senator César J. Blanco and sponsored by Representative Joe Moody to extend safety-net healthcare in El Paso.

SB849 addresses the impending expiration of the El Paso Local Provider Participation Fund (LPPF), which allows local governments to collect mandatory payments from institutional healthcare providers, like University Medical Center (UMC), to fund Medicaid programs to ensure the continuity of critical safety-net healthcare services. This bill now heads to the Governor for final approval.

"The passage of SB 849 is a victory for families and our most vulnerable communities," said Senator César J. Blanco. "By extending the authority of El Paso's LPPF, we can ensure that our hospitals continue to provide critical medical care to uninsured and lower-income residents and draw down the vital funding needed for Medicaid programs."

The bill, which received unanimous support in both the House and Senate, postpones the expiration of the program from December 31, 2023, to December 31, 2027.

"The high-quality services our LPPF has brought to El Pasoans are crucial," said SB849 House sponsor Representative Joe Moody. "I'm proud that we've been able to keep healthcare accessible in our community."

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