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



Contact: Taylor Sanchez 915.276.3872

**DISTRICT OFFICE:** 

416 N. Stanton St.

(915) 577-0029

Suite 700 El Paso, TX 79901

Taylor.sanchez@senate.texas.gov

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## Senator César J. Blanco Passes Key Amendment to Add Transparency and Accountability to House Bill 7

**Austin, Texas** – This evening, the Texas Senate heard House Bill 7 by Senator Birdwell. HB7 creates a Border Force and a new criminal offense for Improper Entry From a Foreign Nation.

Senator César J. Blanco offered an amendment that adds a provision that clarifies that funds used in this bill for technology and equipment purchases are considered funds expended for border security purposes. Doing this will subject the expenditures to the biannual reporting requirements for border security spending as required in the General Appropriations Act which includes performance indicator results.

Senator Blanco's amendment was accepted by the author and adopted by the Texas Senate.

## **Senator Blanco issued the following statement:**

"Texas has spent Billions of taxpayer dollars on border security since 2021. This amendment will ensure that our state agencies are remaining fiscally responsible and transparent while using state dollars and providing appropriate legislative oversight."

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

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