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



DISTRICT OFFICE: 416 N. Stanton St. Suite 700 El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 577-0029

Press Statement FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 29, 2023

915.276.3872 Taylor.sanchez@senate.texas.gov

Contact: Taylor Sanchez

Statement by Senator César J. Blanco on Supreme Court's Affirmative Action Ruling

"I'm incredibly disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision to walk away from decades of precedent that has enabled colleges and universities to build vibrant, diverse environments where students are prepared to lead and learn from one another.

"Institutions of higher education have a long history of discrimination against people of color and women. Although times are better, our institutions are still failing to ensure opportunities are open to everyone.

"In the absence of DEI practices in Texas' higher education institutions, this decision will have deep consequences for those minorities who have been disenfranchised.

"Our colleges are stronger when they are racially diverse, and our state is stronger when we tap into the full range of talent. We must push progress against the implicit biases that still exist and fight to ensure this decision will not be a permanent step back in advancing racial equity and expanding educational opportunities for everyone."

###

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