



The Senate of Texas

CÉSAR J. BLANCO

TEXAS SENATOR
DISTRICT 29

Press Release

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Senator César Blanco Passes Bill to Reopen the Door for Dairy Farms in Texas

Austin, Texas – The Texas Senate has passed House Bill 1275, authored by Representative Mary Gonzalez and sponsored by Senator César Blanco, to support the return of dairy farming and related jobs in areas like El Paso County that once depended on the industry as an economic driver.

In 2001, the U.S. Department of State Health Services shut down several dairy farms in El Paso County due to concerns over bovine tuberculosis. That shutdown ended a local industry that had generated approximately \$40 million annually and employed hundreds of people. HB 1275 updates the law to reflect modern public health standards while allowing economic development to move forward in a way that is safe and responsible.

Senator Blanco issued the following statement:

“This bill will restore the economic activity that El Paso County lost when the dairy industry was shut down over 20 years ago. At its peak, this industry supported hundreds of jobs and generated millions in revenue for our region.

“By allowing safe, non-bovine dairy operations, like goat and sheep, to move forward, we’re giving our community the tools to create new jobs, attract agricultural investment, and boost our local economy, all while maintaining strong public health protections.”

The bill now heads to the Governor’s desk for final approval.

For further information, please contact Taylor Sanchez at Taylor.Sanchez@senate.texas.gov.

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