

Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 28, 2025

## Senator César J. Blanco Announces Major Funding for Sul Ross

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**Austin, Texas** – Today, Senator César J. Blanco announced more than **\$13 million** in new state funding for Sul Ross State University, including:

- \$5 million for Academic Program Development to grow high-demand degrees in nursing, education, cybersecurity, and more.
- **\$8 million** for the Borderlands Research Institute to support wildlife conservation, expand research, and launch a new Center for Land Stewardship and Community Engagement.

These investments will help meet workforce needs in the region and strengthen conservation efforts across the Big Bend and Trans-Pecos.

## Senator César J. Blanco issued the following statement:

"These investments are game changers for Sul Ross and West Texas. As our region grows, we need to ensure rural students can access high-quality degree programs that lead to good-paying jobs in fields like nursing, education, and cybersecurity, all without having to leave home.

"At the same time, we need to preserve the natural beauty and economic potential of the Trans-Pecos. The Borderlands Research Institute is a West Texas treasure, training the next generation of conservation leaders and working with ranchers, landowners, and communities to protect wildlife and habitat that are vital to our tourism and agricultural economies.

"I'm proud to support Sul Ross as it continues to serve as a cornerstone of opportunity, education, and conservation in the Big Bend region and beyond."