



"This week was significant in the Capitol and District 36. At the Capitol, we moved our bill establishing the Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence in Pharr out of committee, and the House approved important legislation appropriating much needed money to the Foundation School Program and creating a statewide penalty for texting while driving. In the District, I had the privilege of attending an important event honoring our veterans and supporting the launch of a revolutionary law enforcement tool by Pharr P.D. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office. Have a great weekend!"

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### SPOTLIGHT BILLS

- S H.B. 1025 - Supplemental Appropriations:** Appropriates an additional \$500 million to the Foundation School Program, \$174 million to offset the devastating effects of last year's wildfires, and \$354 million to other critical programs for the current biennium.
- S H.B. 63 - Texting While Driving:** Amends the Transportation Code to establish that a driver commits an offense if he uses a handheld wireless communication device to read, write, or send a text-based communication while operating a motor vehicle unless the vehicle is stopped, or in emergency situations. The Texas House passed the bill on April 18th, sending it to the Senate for consideration.

### AUTHORED

- S H.B. 2883 - Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence:** H.B. 2883 amends the Education Code to establish the Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence in Pharr, that will be administered by South Texas College. The center will develop and provide initial and continuing education and training, credit of which could be used towards an Associate of Applied Science Degree and basic peace officer certification for law enforcement personnel in the Rio Grande Valley. This legislation, important to District 36 and the entire RGV, was voted out of committee on Tuesday, April 23rd.

## IN THE DISTRICT



Pharr PD held a press conference late last week to announce the launch of the revolutionary system called COPsync, making them the first Police Department within the state to do so. This cutting-edge system, among other things, will allow schools to summon nearby officers directly.

Representative Muñoz attended and spoke at the annual Catholic War Veterans State Convention hosted by Catholic War Veterans Post 1065 in Mission, Texas. During his time at the event honoring our Catholic veterans, Rep. Muñoz took this photo with Past State Commander William Youngren.



### Upcoming:

**Texas General Land Office Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Forum**  
**Attention Building Subcontractors**

VENDOR LIST FOR  
 POSSIBLE SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES

Vendor Certification and Information Session

- Wednesday, May 1, 2013-3:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 1, 2013-5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 2, 2013- 9:00 a.m.

**University of Texas Pan Am.**  
**Community Engagement & Student Success Bldg**  
**Room. 1.117**  
**Edinburg, Texas 78739**

**Reserve Your Free Admission**  
 Call UTPA PTAC to Register - 956-665-8931

## CONSTITUENTS @ THE CAPITOL

(Below) On April 17th, 2013, Rep. Muñoz recognized STC's President, Dr. Shirley Reed, on the House Floor in recognition of South Texas College being the 2013 winner of the Leah Meyer Austin Award by the national nonprofit Achieving the Dream.



(Above) Rep. Muñoz passed a resolution recognizing April 22 as the inaugural Palmview Day at the State Capitol. City officials were recognized on the House Floor, introduced to key law makers, and had a productive meeting with the Water Development Board.

(Below) On April 22nd, 2013, Rep. Muñoz passed a resolution honoring Jose Montalvo in recognition of him becoming a 4x All-State Tuba Player.

