

CAPITOL NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to the 85th Legislature

Happy 85th! During the first week of the 85th legislative session, I was officially sworn in to a fourth term repretinued support and the opportunity to serve you senting District 36 in the Texas House of Representatives. for a fourth term as your State Representative. I was blessed to have my family, friends, and constituents by my side as this legislative session kicked off. Over the next 140 days, I am looking forward to building on the put and concerns you may have, and I invite you successes of previous sessions and continuing to ensure to call or come by and visit us at the Texas Capitol. that our community prospers and that our region has a strong, experienced voice at the decision making table.

I am humbled and thankful for your con-

As your voice in Austin, I welcome any in-

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District 36 Legislative Staff

I am proud to announce my staff for the 85th legislative session. Not only are they tremendously talented and hardworking, and they also share my deep respect for our community and for the citizens of District 36.

Loradel Mariano, Chief-of-Staff Cynthia Pacheco, District Office Manager Peter Salinas, Communications Director Mauricio Cantu, Legislative Director Melissa Garza, UTRGV Legislative Aide Legislative Aides: Ariana Rivera, Cristian Farias, Jorge Garza, Francisco Almanza, and Erica Barrera.



Our Legislative Director, Mauricio Cantu, met with members of "Moms Demand Action" to have a conversation about issues important to them that will come before the legislature this session.



We have moved offices! Our new office is located on the 4th floor of the Capitol and I am lucky to have Rep. Abel Herrero (Robstown) and Rep. Eddie Rodriguez (Austin) as suite-mates!



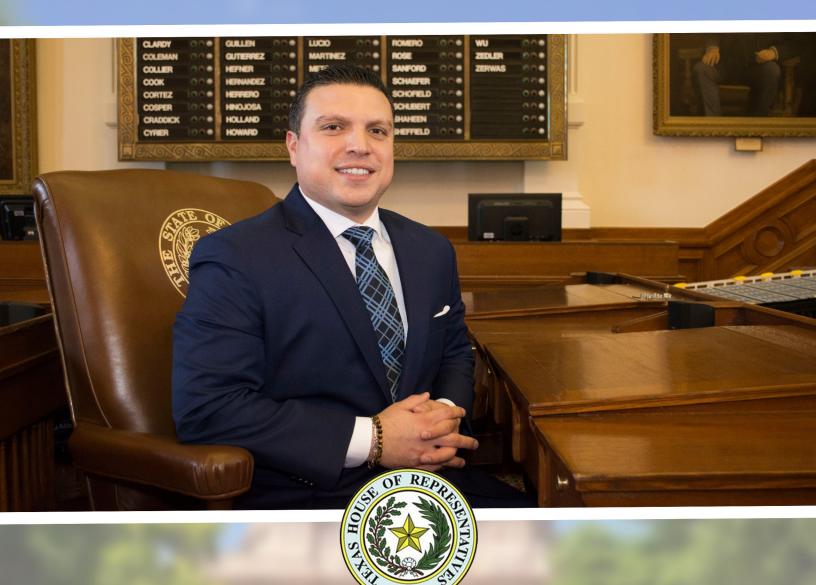
Meet our UTRGV Intern

We are excited to welcome Melissa Garza to our team this session! Melissa, 21, is a lifelong resident of Mission and is the daughter of Esperanza Garza., and has two sibling: Cynthia and David Lee. She is currently a Senior at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley where she is majoring in Political Science and minoring in Criminal Justice. Melissa plans to attend law school after graduating from UTRGV and return to practice law in the district. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering with Mission Regional Hospital and Keep McAllen Beautiful.

Melissa was accepted to UTRGV's Valley Legislative Internship Program (VLIP) that offers opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to serve as interns in the Texas Legislature.

This week, the City of Palmview and the Agua Special Utility District (SUD) held the groundbreaking ceremony for a waste-water collection system that will connect over 1,600 homes to the City of Mission's Wastewater Treatment Plant. This project was developed with the help of a \$31.5 million award from the Texas Water Development Board, \$29,300,000 of which was a grant from the EDAP program, that I helped secure through my work on the House Appropriations Committee in 2013.





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