



TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE
EDDIE MORALES, JR.
DISTRICT 74

BREWSTER • CULBERSON • HUDSPETH • JEFF DAVIS • KINNEY • LOVING • MAVERICK • PECOS • PRESIDIO • REEVES • TERRELL • VAL VERDE

Friends,

I'd like to talk to you a little bit more about the winter storm week. Hellen and I were in West Texas, engaging with the public via town halls when the storm first began to hit. Our successful town hall tour ended at the height of the storm, as we found our way back to Austin from Marathon, we hit the ground running. From phone calls with city officials, constituents, ERCOT, AEP, and Rio Grande Electric Co-op personnel, to researching helpful links to share on our social media. We wanted to make sure that our constituents were as informed as possible.

We were not expecting ERCOT to require power to be cut to thousands of Texan homes, making it increasingly difficult to keep warm. Most of our district was left out of the supposed "rolling burnouts/blackouts," that would have allowed power to come on for a short period and then turn back off. Instead, some of House District 74, like many other areas of the state, faced total darkness and record freezing temperatures for up to seven days. We monitored this situation and maintained contact with local officials to remain apprised of what we could do to help residents.

My team tried their hardest to remain tuned into their emails, and phones, in order to help where they could. They too were hit with blackouts, and water shutoffs, that kept them in the dark. Like many of you, my staff had to resort to sitting in their running cars to keep warm and keep their devices online. When the power finally came back on though, they were back in full force to work for the people of the district.

Throughout this ordeal, I was committed to assisting as many of my constituents in House District 74. I believe my staff and I were able to respond to all social media messages and inquiries and assist local officials with time-sensitive information to distribute to their residents. I read and communicate with many of you that suffered greatly through this winter storm. My heart goes out to you and I am proud of the resiliency and strength shown by everyone in the district.

My freshman term has been nothing short of a wild ride. Much like COVID-19, the consequences of the winter storm, are some that we will be dealing with for years to come. When I decided to run for office, I did so to be a voice for those who had been ignored for so long. I expected challenges to present themselves, in fact, I welcomed those challenges, and look forward to what the rest of my term has to offer. Rest assured we are marching in lockstep with you every step of the way, remaining committed to being a voice for all in House District 74.

For those counties that have not qualified for individual assistance through FEMA, I encourage individuals to fill out the self-reporting survey below.



REPORT DISASTER DAMAGES
tdem.texas.gov/warm

Please use this link to report your damages through the [Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas Individual Assistance Reporting Tool \(TIART\)](#).

This TDEM Link is the self-reporting survey to help get your county approved for the individual assistance program under FEMA.

For Maverick County, Val Verde County & Kinney County:

Your County has already qualified for individual assistance through FEMA:

www.disasterassistance.gov



The Texas Workforce Commission has announced that residents in Maverick and Val Verde County are eligible to apply for Disaster Unemployment Aid. If you are a resident in one of these two counties, and faced employment issues as a consequence of the winter storm, please utilize this link. Applications are open until March 26th, 2021.

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/disaster-unemployment-assistance>



This week I had committee hearings for The House Defense and Veterans Affairs Committee and The House Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee. We heard testimony from the Texas Veterans Commission, the Texas Military Department, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A
**COMMUNITY INPUT
MEETING**

FRIDAY, MARCH 5TH

5:30 PM

DEL RIO CIVIC CENTER

REGARDING THE CREATION OF A
GROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
IN VAL VERDE COUNTY

WITH

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
EDDIE MORALES, JR.

As a reminder, you are invited to our community input meeting in Del Rio **Friday, March 5th at 5:30 PM at the Del Rio Civic Center** to discuss our water conservation efforts.

We will also be giving a Legislative Update to a The Board of Trustees of the City of Eagle Pass Water Works System, The Eagle Pass City Council, Maverick County Commissioners Court, The Eagle Pass Independent School District Board of Trustees, Eagle Pass Chamber of Commerce, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas and the EP/MC Economic Development Alliance **Friday, March 5th at 11:30 AM at the International Center for Trade in Eagle Pass**. This meeting can be viewed live, online on the City of Eagle Pass social media pages.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Eddie Morales, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "M".

State Representative Eddie Morales, Jr.