



Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

A. C. Cuellar, Jr.
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Hector "Tito" Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

OFFICE OF HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE RAMON GARCIA

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HOUSE UNANIMOUSLY PASSES MEDICAL SCHOOL BILL, BILL NOW HEADS TO GOVERNOR'S DESK FOR APPROVAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2013

Edinburg, Texas – A bill to create the first UT medical school in the Rio Grande Valley was unanimously approved by the Texas House of Representatives on Friday, May 17, 2013. House delegates passed the bill with a vote of 136 – 0. The bill is now headed to Governor Rick Perry's desk for his approval and signature. Hidalgo and Cameron County leaders agree the new bill will benefit each county by allowing for the development of a truly regionalized medical school poised to provide services to the entire region of South Texas.

After combing portions of the original SB 24 bill and bill HB 1000, South Texas delegates presented the House with the new SB 24 bill. This new bill requires the office of undergraduate medical education to be located in Hidalgo County, while the office of graduate medical education to be in Cameron County. It also calls for the full utilization of existing resources in both Hidalgo and Cameron Counties. Furthermore, the bill lays out a framework whereby the first two years of medical education will be primarily located in Hidalgo County and the last two years will be primarily located in Cameron County.

For comment on the bills approval, Judge Ramon Garcia will be able via phone. You may contact Assistant Chief Administrator Jaime Longoria at 956-457-7133.

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