



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JOE STRAUS
SPEAKER

PROCLAMATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE FISCAL IMPACT OF TEXAS BORDER SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Pursuant to Rule 1, Section 16, House Rules, I, Joe Straus, Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, create the House Select Committee on the Fiscal Impact of Texas Border Support Operations.

While the responsibility for securing the border rests exclusively on the federal government, failure to secure the border has resulted in a humanitarian issue that threatens the safety and economic stability of Texas citizens. To provide for the health and safety of its citizens, reduce crime, and support strained resources of local law enforcement and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the State of Texas has authorized the Texas Department of Public Safety to execute an operation of increased law enforcement in counties on the Texas-Mexico border. Recognizing that the next legislature will need to address the cost of this operation in a supplemental appropriations bill, this committee shall monitor the specific measures taken by the Department of Public Safety to support local and federal law enforcement on the border in order to determine the short and long-term impact of this operation on Texas's economic resources and infrastructure. Additionally, the committee will provide information to the legislature to inform all Texas taxpayers of how the increased immigration will affect the state's economy and the operations of state and local government and affiliated institutions. The committee will develop specific legislative proposals to address budgetary issues.

Further, the committee shall:

1. Monitor the state's and local governments' response to the increased influx of immigrants entering Texas through the Texas-Mexico border, including measures taken by Texas to provide security and human services and potential increases in budgetary costs resulting from these measures;
2. Review and evaluate support Texas has received from the federal government to address this issue, including the use of additional federal funds in Texas, if authorized by Congress;
3. Study the short and long-term budgetary impact of the increased influx of immigrants on the costs of Texas's border security operations, economic resources, and infrastructure, including the short and long-term impact on operations of local and state governments and agencies; and
4. Determine potential long-term budgetary costs associated with ensuring the health and safety of Texas citizens and the Texas economy.

This committee may request the assistance of other committees in obtaining information.

The committee shall have 11 members. The following members are hereby appointed to the House Select Committee on the Fiscal Impact of Texas Border Support Operations:

The Honorable Dennis Bonnen, Chair
The Honorable Greg Bonnen
The Honorable Myra Crownover
The Honorable Drew Darby
The Honorable Donna Howard
The Honorable Oscar Longoria
The Honorable Marisa Márquez
The Honorable Sergio Muñoz, Jr.
The Honorable John Otto
The Honorable Sylvester Turner
The Honorable John Zerwas

July 2, 2014



Joe Straus
Speaker