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PRESS RELEASE

LONGORIA FILES FOR RE-ELECTION TO TEXAS HOUSE DISTRICT 35

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MISSION, TX- Representative Oscar Longoria (D-La Joya) announced today that he will seek a third term representing the people of House District 35 in the Texas House of Representatives.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve my community, and it is my hope that the citizens of the counties of Hidalgo and Cameron will allow me to continue representing them," Longoria said. "I am proud of my track record in the Legislature and look forward to improving the quality of life for my constituents and those across the state."

Longoria currently serves in several leadership roles in the Texas House. He is a member of the powerful *House Appropriations Committee*, where he serves on the *Sub-Committee for Article II – Health and Human Services* and is Vice-Chairman of the *Investments & Financial Services Committee*. He has also been appointed to serve on the Joint Interim Committee to Study Human Trafficking and the Committee to study the Fiscal Impact of Texas Border Support Operations.

Representative Longoria has fought hard during his time in the legislature for many important issues and local institutions. He has authored or sponsored legislation to expand higher educational opportunities for students in the Edcouch-Elsa School District through South Texas College, co-authored legislation that establishes the Child Sex Trafficking Prevention Unit within the criminal justice division in the Governor's Office, supported legislation to provide funding for and support to the new University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), and sponsored riders that provided for funding to the Medicaid-to-Medicare Parity Payments for Physicians, Trauma Service Centers, DPS, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, and Indigent Defense, among others.

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He was also instrumental in ensuring our local transportation dollars were spent locally and has fought to keep South Texas College and Texas State Technical College and other community colleges adequately funded.

Most importantly, during the 84th Legislative Session, Representative Longoria was instrumental in passing key legislation that aides in prosecuting dangerous criminals who engage in drug smuggling and human trafficking—making our borders safer for all Texans.

Longoria authored House Bill 12, which places the Border Prosecution Unit into statute—this allows local officials to prosecute border related crimes, such as: drug smuggling, murder, kidnapping, extortion, money laundering and human trafficking. Longoria also worked alongside House Leadership in support of more funding to DPS to fight these issues and improve security along the border.

“There is still much to be done to advance our education, healthcare, transportation, and economic systems in Texas,” said Longoria. “It is my hope that I can continue to fight for these important issues at our state capitol, not only for the betterment of our state, but for each and every person in Texas. Our constituents deserve the best quality of life and it is up to us to make sure their voices are heard in Austin.”

Representative Longoria is an attorney in Mission, where he operates his own law firm. He was raised in Mission and is a product of the La Joya Independent School District. He is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Texas School of Law. He and his wife Jennifer, have two daughters: Camilla and Madison.

Longoria has represented District 35 in the Texas House of Representatives since 2013. House District 35 encompasses portions of Hidalgo and Cameron Counties in the Rio Grande Valley and includes the cities/towns of: La Joya, Sullivan City, Peñitas, Alton, McAllen, Mission, Edinburg, Monte Alto, Edcouch, La Villa, Mercedes, Weslaco, Santa Rosa, Primera, Palm Valley, Combes, Harlingen, and La Feria.

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