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## **Statement on Fifth Circuit ruling on S.B. 4**

**El Paso** – State Senator José Rodríguez's statement on the U.S. Fifth Circuit's ruling on S.B. 4, the so-called "sanctuary cities" law:

*I am glad that the courts recognized the draconian attempts to suppress the free speech rights of local officials. The other parts of the ruling do not change the fact that immigration is a federal responsibility, and forcing local law enforcement to take on immigration enforcement is bad for community safety, as we heard numerous times in testimony from police chiefs and sheriffs. I am looking forward to an appeal regarding the constitutionality of this misguided, anti-immigrant law. Anti-immigrant policy based on fear-mongering that runs counter to proven public safety strategies is anything but common sense.*

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*José Rodríguez represents Texas Senate District 29, which includes the counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, and Presidio. He represents both urban and rural constituencies, and more than 350 miles of the Texas-Mexico border. Senator Rodríguez currently serves as the Chairman of the Texas Senate Democratic Caucus, and is a member of the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Economic Development; Transportation; Veteran Affairs and Border Security; and Agriculture, Water, and Rural Affairs (Vice Chair).*