

**Chairman**  
Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr.  
Cameron County

**Vice Chairman**  
C. LeRoy Cavazos-Reyna  
United States Hispanic  
Chamber of Commerce

**Treasurer**  
Henry Sauvignet  
IBC Bank

**Chairman Elect**  
Mayor Luis Sifuentes  
City of Eagle Pass

**Immediate Past Chairman**  
Mayor Pete Saenz  
City of Laredo

**Executive Committee**  
Judge Eleazar Cano  
Brewster County

Mayor Ralph Lozano  
City of Del Rio

Mayor Rick Morales  
City of Donna

Mayor Sergio Coronado  
City of Hidalgo

Mayor Jim Darling  
City of McAllen

Mayor Armando O'Caña  
City of Mission

Daniel Silva  
Mission EDC

Mayor Amos Hernandez  
City of Pharr

Luis Bazan  
Pharr-Reynosa Intl. Bridge

Mayor J.J. Zamora  
City of Port Isabel

Mayor John Ferguson  
City of Presidio

Judge Cinderela Guevara  
Presidio County

Mayor Patrick McNulty  
City of South Padre Island

J.D. Salinas, III  
AT&T

Sergio Contreras  
RGV Partnership

Ben Petty, Sr.  
TaxFree Shopping

Mayor David Suarez  
City of Weslaco

Judge Aurelio Guerra  
Willacy County

Judge Joe Rathmell  
Zapata County

**Committee Chairs**  
Carolyn Petty  
Economic Development  
Dr. Hector F. Gonzalez  
Healthcare

Monica Weisberg-Stewart  
Immigration &  
Border Security

Cynthia Garza Reyes  
Transportation

Michael E. Gonzalez  
Education & Workforce  
Development

**Mission:**

**To make legislative  
recommendations to  
help the Texas Border Region  
grow and prosper economically.**



May 18, 2021

The Honorable John Cornyn  
517 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

In re: Support for the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act of 2021

Dear Senator Cornyn:

I am writing to convey the Coalition's support for your Bipartisan Border Solutions Act, which you are co-sponsoring with Sen. Kyrsten Sinema and U.S. Reps. Henry Cuellar and Tony Gonzales. We believe your legislation would improve the federal government's capacity to manage immigrants and asylum seekers at our southern border, ensuring that everyone is treated fairly and humanely while reducing the impact on our border communities.

The Texas Border Coalition, or TBC, acts as the collective voice of border communities on issues that affect Texas-Mexico border region quality of life, commerce, and public policy. TBC is comprised of mayors, city council members, county judges, county executives, businesses, and community leaders. We believe in the economic vibrancy of our border region. Collectively, we represent more than 2.5 million people who reside along the more than 1,250 miles of the Texas-Mexico border, from Brownsville to El Paso, Texas.

This spring, we have seen an increase in the number of family units and unaccompanied children who have been allowed to enter the country and continue their quest for asylum. Approximately 28 percent of migrants recently apprehended by CBP at the U.S.-Mexico border are families and children who do not attempt to evade detection, but instead present themselves at the ports of entry or seek out U.S. authorities to initiate a request for asylum.

The number of migrants in ICE holding facilities and the longstanding backlog of cases in immigration courts are troubling. They are evidence of a broken asylum and immigration system that should have been fixed years ago.

TBC supports smart, effective border enforcement and greater investments in personnel, technology and infrastructure at the ports of entry – not false efforts that militarize the border, harming morale and further damaging the economy of our region. Smart border enforcement actions should confront border security challenges including drug smuggling, gang activity, human trafficking and undocumented entry where they are perpetrated -- at the land ports of entry.

A well-functioning immigration court system will restore order and fairness to our immigration process, preserve the rights of asylum seekers and deter a wave of economic migrants from flooding U.S. border crossings. Involving members of border communities in the decision-making process will promote mutual trust and enhances security by encouraging increased cooperation and open information-sharing.

Without a long-term solution to rebuild our broken immigration system, the migration problems that confront border communities cannot be solved. Your legislation is an important step toward addressing this growing problem with adequately resourced immigration courts, smart border enforcement, common-sense immigration reform and support for local border communities that provide humanitarian assistance to migrants.

We appreciate your longstanding leadership on these important issues. TBC looks forward to continuing to work with you, the rest of our border congressional delegation and the Biden-Harris Administration to achieve immigration and border security outcomes worthy of our great state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eddie Treviño Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eddie Treviño Jr.  
Chairman, Texas Border Coalition  
County Judge, Cameron County