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Texas State Senator  
District 4

Committees:  
Transportation and Homeland  
Security, Chair  
Finance  
International Relations & Trade  
Select Committee on Redistricting  
State Affairs

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Sen. Williams Explanation on Strategy For Senate Committee's HB12, CSHB 12, & SB 9**

**By State Senator Tommy Williams (R-The Woodlands)**  
Chairman, State Senate Transportation & Homeland Security Committee

Today, I have been assured by Governor Rick Perry's staff and our colleagues in the Texas House that SB 9 "Border & Homeland Security Act" will move forward for debate on the Texas House floor.

As you recall, SB 9 passed the Senate on a 25 -6 vote with bipartisan support.

I have stated throughout this legislative session, I support both the strengthened "Border & Homeland Security Act" (CSHB 12 and SB 9) and the uniform statewide benefit of a "Sanctuary City Prohibition Act" (HB 12 and SB 11).

I have also consistently stated my belief that Texas law enforcement must have the proper tools and foundation in place, such as mandatory IN-JAIL citizenship checks and the proper mechanism to prevent those illegally in our country from obtaining either a Texas Drivers' license or other form of State identification before a "Sanctuary City Prohibition Act" can be successfully implemented.

It was for the above-stated reasons that on Wednesday (5.18.11) I felt it was critical to send a clear message to my colleagues in the Texas House concerning the importance of passing SB 9. This is why I supported a hearing on the substituted CSHB 12, and is also why I left both HB 12 and CSHB 12 pending in committee.

-More-

Today, we voted out of the Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee HB 12, the “Sanctuary City Prohibition Act” and now look forward to its debate on the Senate floor and the upcoming debate on the Texas House floor of SB 9, the “Border & Homeland Security Act”.

Furthermore, in keeping with my commitment to my bipartisan colleagues who support SB 9, we will keep HB 12 and SB 9 as separate bills.

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*Senator Williams represents Senate District 4 covering all or portions of Jefferson, Orange, Chambers, Liberty, Harris and Montgomery Counties. Williams serves as Chairman of the Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee and as a member of the Finance, State Affairs, International Relations & Trade Committees and the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting.*

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