



EVERY TEXAN

Every Texan opposes SB 1254 relating to an interstate compact on border security and immigration enforcement.

Every Texan opposes SB 1254 for equity, safety, and accountability concerns. Senate Bill 1254 proposes an interstate compact for the purpose of border enforcement of federal immigration laws on the Texas Mexico border.

- The Border Patrol has more than doubled to 21,000 since 2000. Crime rates in border communities are below the state average. Texas already spends around \$800 million for a DPS deterrent force focused on border security that has been heavily criticized for lack of accountability, metrics of success, and harassment of local residents. Bringing additional troops and law enforcement from other states would only exacerbate these concerns.
- The bill provides no safeguards for training other than Congressional approval. Immigration law is extremely complex, much like tax law, and should not be enforced locally without extensive training. Federal law already provides for local enforcement of immigration laws through 287(g) agreements that essentially deputize and train officers in federal law enforcement. This bill makes no such requirements and does not provide for any Texas Legislative or Executive oversight of accountability or training.
- The legislation does not provide for any safeguards on which states would be responsible for the travel, housing and overtime costs of non-Texas law enforcement officers, which comprise the majority of the state's current costs for DPS border security operations.
- Lastly, Odessa, by a wide margin, [has the highest crime rate in Texas](#), followed by Amarillo. Not one border city is on the top 10 list, and it's a false narrative that the border needs an increase of law enforcement.