Austin—The Mexican American Legislative Caucus-Texas House of Representatives (MALC) will hold a hearing regarding the construction of a wall along the Texas-Mexico border on November 13, 2008. The hearing begins at 8:00 AM in the House Appropriations room, E1.032, in the Capitol Extension in Austin, Texas.

Officials from various border communities, as well as private citizens and public organizations, will offer testimony to a panel of MALC members. This hearing will allow MALC members to gain further insight regarding the effects of a border wall on the economy, environment, and private rights of Texans living along the Texas-Mexico border.

“The Texas border with Mexico thrives due to its close relationship with its neighbor to the South; it is imperative that we understand how a border wall would affect Texas’ relationship with Mexico,” said Representative Eddie Lucio III, the Chair for the hearing.

The border wall directly impacts South Texas communities. Raising awareness of how federal legislation affects Texan constituents is essential to ensuring that local rights and concerns are not overlooked at the national level. It is imperative that this hearing open dialogue that leads the Federal Government to integrate local and state input when implementing policy affecting Texas border communities.

“Every community that lines the Rio Grande River poses distinct challenges. We must explore how a border wall would address each unique area of the Texas border,” emphasized Representative Pete Gallego, MALC Chairman.

The Mexican American Legislative Caucus—Texas House of Representatives (MALC) is a leader in Latino issues in the State of Texas. Founded in 1973, MALC is a 501(c)(6) non-profit, non-partisan organization composed of 43 members of the Texas House of Representatives dedicated to addressing the issues that concern Latinos across the State of Texas.