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1-10-1990

## **News Release - 1990-01-10**

E. De la Garza

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# news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

10 JANUARY 1990

WASHINGTON--U S Rep Kika de la Garza said today, in connection with the President's recent declaration for disaster assistance, that his foremost concern is that everyone who needs assistance in our area be helped. The declaration provides unemployment compensation to individuals who, as a result of the freeze in the counties of Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr and Willacy are unemployed.

Those individuals affected should go directly to their local Texas Employment Commission office to apply for assistance. Eligible individuals are those who lost jobs or who are unable to work as a result of the freeze. Individuals already covered under the state unemployment program are ineligible for federal unemployment assistance, but anyone having a question as to his or her eligibility should inquire with the TEC. The TEC will work to determine under which insurance program -- whether it be state or federal -- that the applicant qualifies.

Temporary offices will soon be set up in the Valley at various locations to facilitate efforts. These sites have not yet been designated so in the interim those seeking assistance should continue to contact the local office.

The South Texas Congressman also said a request has gone to the Secretary of Agriculture for assistance geared specifically to the agricultural sector for aid beyond the Disaster Relief Act of 1989.

To all who played a part in making this happen -- the Texas Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Governor's office, my colleagues from Texas, and the President -- the Congressman wanted to express his sincere appreciation.

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