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news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

10 April 1992

PRISONS TO BRING JOBS TO SOUTH TEXAS

(McALLEN, TX) - "The selection of South Texas for the location of new prisons and substance abuse centers means jobs, jobs and more jobs," said U S Rep Kika de la Garza (D-Mission) Friday upon hearing the news from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

"I'm delighted for the communitites and I look forward to witnessing the fruits of our labor," the South Texas Congressman said. De la Garza lent support to each of four new facilities -- three in his current 15th congressional district and one in the new district he will represent beginning in 1993.

Facilities in the current district include a 500-bed substance abuse center in San Diego, a 1000-bed substance abuse center in Edinburg, and a 2250-bed maximum security prison in Karnes County. The City of Cuero, to be in the newly realigned 15th district, will recieve a 1000-bed minimum/maximum security prison.

"These four facilities alone mean an additional 1,600 jobs. These are good steady jobs with an average salary of \$21,000 per year and state benefits, and the are going to communities whose economies need a jump start," de la Garza said. The 500-bed units will mean 170 jobs, the 1000-bed units bring 300 jobs each and the 2,250-bed unit, considered to be the "grand prize," will create a whopping 800 jobs.

"I regret that not every community to which I lent support, was able to receive a facility," he said.

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