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**DE LA GARZA ANNOUNCES POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN DEBATE
OVER THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSED BORDER CROSSING TAX**

For immediate release, Friday, April 7, 1995

WASHINGTON - Rep. Kika de la Garza today announced that the Chairman of the House Ways and Mean Committee, Rep. Bill Archer, shares his views concerning the Administration's proposed border crossing tax. "This is a very important development in the Congressional debate over the border crossing tax since the powerful House Ways and Mean Committee has legislative jurisdiction over revenue and U.S. Customs Service matters" de la Garza stated.

Chairman Archer told de la Garza in a recent letter, "I recognize the concerns you have raised regarding the disproportionate burden that such a fee would impose on the border states, and I appreciate the adverse impact it would have on the economies of such states."

Chairman Archer also shares Rep. de la Garza's concerns concerning the Administration's so-called local option fee since he wrote to him in the letter "Moreover, I, like you, oppose employing a 'local option,' whereby individual states and localities may choose to impose a border fee. I believe that such an option would further disrupt border trade and travel and upset the continuity of border policy."

"I am very pleased that Chairman Archer shares my views and I will continue to work with him on this issue of great importance to my district," Rep. de la Garza said.

Rep. de la Garza also added that the Michigan Transportation Commission has also undertaken a similar initiative as the one he spearheaded in the House of Representatives by forming a transportation coalition composed of five U.S. northeastern states and three Canadian provinces along the U.S.-Canada border in order to defeat the border crossing tax proposal.

Rep. de la Garza coordinated the formation of a Congressional Anti-Border Tax Coalition to defeat the proposal in the Congress. The Anti-Border Tax Coalition was successful in defeating the Administration's original mandatory border tax proposal. "I will continue to work hard to get the support of other Members of Congress and friends from our northern and southern borders in order to defeat the new so-called 'local option' border crossing tax proposal," the South Texas Congressman added.