# WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER: IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS ISSUES IN TEXAS

43<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW
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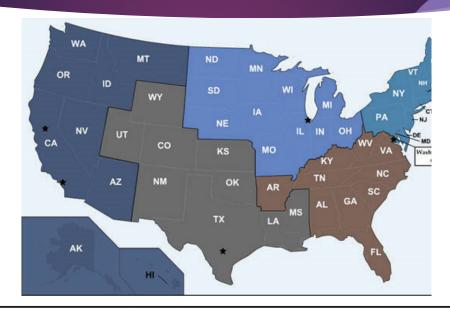


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#### What is MALDEF?

- Founded in 1968, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) is the nation's leading Latino legal civil rights organization. Often described as the "law firm of the Latino community", MALDEF promotes social change through advocacy, communications, community education, and litigation in the areas of education, employment, immigrants' rights, and political access.
- MALDEF combines advocacy, educational outreach, and litigation strategies to achieve socio-economic change.

## MALDEF Regional Districts



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### Overview

- > 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature
  - Senate
  - > House of Representatives
- Immigration-Related State Legislation
  - "Texas Dream Act"
  - **>** SB4
  - Driver's Permits
  - ➤ Border Security Operations
- ➤ Senate Resolution 535
- > Texas' Voter Purge
- > Interim Hearings & Charges



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#### Texas Senate

- > Lieutenant Governor
- > 31 Senators
  - > 19 Republicans; 12 Democrats
- > Simple majority vote needed to pass a bill out





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