CANALES, JOSÉ TOMÁS (1877-1976).

Portrait of J. T. Canales:



José Tomás (J. T.) Canales, lawyer, legislator, landowner, and a founder of the League of United Latin American Citizens, the son of Andreas and Tomasa (Cavazos) Canales, was born on a ranch in Nueces County, Texas, on March 7, 1877. His mother was a descendant of José Salvador de la Garza, the recipient of the Espíritu Santo grant, an enormous Spanish land grant that occupied most of what is now Cameron County. His mother's family still retained extensive holdings of ranchland in Nueces County at the time of Canales's birth. As a child, Canales lived with his parents and with several relatives and attended a variety of schools in Nueces County and at Tampico, Vera Cruz, and Matamoros and Mier, Tamaulipas. From 1890 to 1892 he attended a secondary school at Austin called Texas Business College. After delivering a shipment of cattle to Oklahoma he befriended a cattle dealer and moved to Kansas City, Kansas, to live with the man's family and complete high school. There Canales left the Catholic Church and became a Presbyterian. In fall 1896 he attended the University of Michigan, where he received a law degree three years later. After practicing law in Corpus Christi and Laredo from 1900 to 1903 he settled in Brownsville, where he worked in the county assessor's office.

The Bandit Wars

http://www.ask.com/wiki/Bandit_War?o=2801&qsrc=999&ad=doubleDown&an=apn &ap=ask.com

Border War

http://www.los-tejanos.com/border war.html

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J. T. Canales and the 1919 Texas Ranger Investigation

Part one of a four-part series

Antonio Historico Chaparral

The Jan. 26, 1919, issue of the Austin Statesman, reporting on the status of legislation at the state capitol, noted that "there is another special order set for Monday afternoon, also at 2 o'clock, in the House, being the Canales Ranger bill. This measure has so far been the only bill which has furnished any sensations, as its consideration may lead to the investigation of the Ranger force."

The Canales Ranger Bill that the Statesman was referring to was introduced by Representative Jose Tomas Canales from Brownsville, Texas. The bill called for an investigation of "outrages perpetrated by Rangers" against Mexican-Americans as well other citizens of the state of Texas. The bill also called for a reorganization of the Ranger force.

J.T. Canales was born on May 4, 1876, at the "Veladeros Ranch," near Premont, Texas, in what was then Nueces County and is now Jim Wells County. His parents were Andres Canales Sr. and Tomasita Cavazos Canales.

Through his maternal lineage, J.T. Canales was "descended from Jose Salvador De La Garza," recipient of a Spanish land grant, "Espiritu Santo," that occupied a large portion of Cameron County. Interestingly enough, Canales was the grandnephew of Juan N. Cortina, who is considered a Mexican folk hero by the people of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. On the flipside, Cortina was considered a bandit by the Texas Rangers.

In 1878 the Canales family moved to "La Cabra Ranch," also near Premont, Texas. During his childhood J.T Canales spent a lot of time with his paternal great-grandparents in Bustamante, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

In 1885, his parents decided to send him to school at Matamoros, Tamaulipas,

Mexico. He stayed with the step-daughter of his grandmother while attending school "in a building called Colegio de San Juan."

Two years later J.T. Canales returned to the brush country and attended the public school at the Santa Fe Ranch. He recalled "that was the first school in English and the first Public School in Texas that I attended."

In 1888 he was back in Mexico, attending school in Mier, then returned to Texas, where he registered at the "County Public School in Palito Blanco" and then in 1890, 1891 and 1892 he attended the Texas Business College at Austin.

In 1892, Jose Tomas Canales is probably the most traveled and best educated 16 year old in South Texas, and he's about to embark on a life changing adventure. In his memoirs Canales noted that in 1892 a severe drought "forced his father and grandfather to ship a large number of cattle, perhaps 2,500 head, to what was then known as the Oklahoma Indian Territory."

More than 50 years later, Canales would recall that "during the latter part of May or early part of June 1892 after I left school at Austin and returned home, I was sent to the Oklahoma Indian Territory with a shipment of cattle and I stayed at a camp which was located near Pawhuska and Hominy in said Territory until the Fall when I went to Kansas City, Kansas, with the first shipment of cattle."

During his stay at the cattle camp J.T. Canales met D. F. Wallace, the man in charge of the camp. Canales made quite an impression on Wallace, who in turn persuaded J.T.'s grandfather to leave him in the custody of his family so he could attend high school in Kansas City.

Two years later Mrs. Wallace became ill and J.T "moved to another family by the name of S. B. Powers in whose home I stayed until I graduated in 1896."

During his stay in Kansas City, J.T. Canales "took a great deal of interest in football." And in the Fall of 1895 he attended a college football game between the University of Michigan and Kansas State University. He recalled that he was so impressed with the "superior ability" of Michigan "that I determined then to study law in the University of Michigan instead of going to the University of Virginia where I had originally intended to go."

Canales recollected that in the Fall of 1896 "I left for Ann Arbor, Michigan, and attended the University for three years, graduating in June 1899 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. I returned home in the month of June in 1899 and after spending a few weeks' vacation at my father's ranch, in September of that year, I was admitted to the Bar at Corpus Christi, Texas."

During the first quarter of the 20th Century, Jose Tomas Canales was the only Mexican-American elected to the Texas Legislature. He served five intermittent terms from 1905 to 1920. In January 1919, he introduced a bill that would cement his presence in the state legislature. The Ranger Bill brought Canales praise, respect and credibility. He also received the wrath from some fellow state legislators as well as citizens across the state who were outraged with his proposed investigation into what they presumed to be the greatest body of law enforcement in the history of Texas.

The astute assessment of the Austin Statesman, familiar with the modus operandi of the state legislature, accurately predicted the sensation that the Canales Ranger Bill would generate. The chamber of the House of Representatives seemed animated as its walls echoed the lively debate over the Canales Ranger Bill. Representative Barry Miller of Dallas, "the acknowledged leader of opponents of the Canales bill," waved a handful of "letters and telegrams from prominent men from different sections of Texas urging that the Ranger force be not crippled or destroyed, citing instances in their respective localities where the Rangers had served nobly, bringing order out of chaotic conditions."

On the other side, Representative D.J. Neill of Eastland County said "he was prejudiced against the Rangers...that the Rangers had wantonly killed a citizen of Eastland County, were indicted, released on bond and turned loose. He said that the people of his county were expecting the Legislature to do something for their protection."

Representative Walter "Uncle Elmer" Pope, whose district involved the counties of Nueces, Jim Wells and Duval, commented "that there had been only five people killed in his county in the previous year and that three of those had been killed by Rangers. He demanded that the legislature do something to protect the innocent citizens from the Rangers."

The consensus of the House of Representatives can perhaps be characterized best by the comments of Representative Stewart of Reeves County when "he said that he had not taken the Canales bill seriously; had thought no one else would, but that now the matter had assumed its present proportions, he could sit still no longer."

Representative Stewart continued, "my home is seventy-five miles from the Mexican border and God only knows what would have become of many citizens and their property in that section of (west) Texas had it not been for the presence or nearness of Texas Rangers."

Stewart concluded that "he was not a Mexican hater, by any means. He knew Mexicans; in fact, had worked Mexicans for years and that his foreman was a Mexican. But he did not want the Ranger force crippled or done away with. If there

be bad individual Rangers, get rid of them, but leave the sound ones, permitting the organization to go forward unhampered."

After considerable debate, the momentum of the issue seemed to swing in favor of the opponents of the bill and former District Judge Felix Johnson McCord, a transplanted Mississippian, "moved that further consideration of the Canales bill be postponed until Friday morning at 10 o'clock." This was a Parliamentary procedure that would eventually kill the bill.

Canales, aware of the objective of the motion by McCord promptly jumped on his feet and proclaimed "you know that postponement is sought on this bill in order to kill it." He challenged the bill's opponents, "if you want to be men, why come boldly out and be men; do not attempt to kill my bill by subterfuge, as you are now doing. Be brave, vote what your wishes may be...but have a straight, fair vote on such a motion as that, but do not seek the death of my bill by innuendo. In brief, don't be a coward and do by indirection that which if you must do, I ask that you do by direction."

Canales then asked that his bill, House Bill No. 5 be recommitted until a "thorough investigation of the Texas Rangers had been made." A joint committee composed of four House members and three Senate members was then appointed to conduct the investigation.

Part two of a four-part series

In December 1918, a month before he filed House Bill No. 5 that led to a joint committee's investigation of the Texas Rangers, J.T. Canales was walking toward his law office in downtown Brownsville, when a man confronted him and said, "Come here, I want to talk to you."



Canales recognized the big hombre as Texas Ranger Frank Hamer. At 6"3" and weighing 230 lbs., Hamer cast a striking figure who used his physique and badge to intimidate people. He asked Canales, "What is the name of that (expletive deleted) that complained to you about the Rangers cursing him and abusing him over at Rio Grande City?"

Canales, briefly thrown off by the abrupt inquiry, responded "I don't believe such testimony is for you to know..."

Canales would later testify that Ranger Frank Hamer "looked at me in a very angry way, his eyes glistened, and ...I have been practicing law for 20 years and I know when men mean business. He told me, 'you are hotfooting it here and Austin and complaining to the Governor and Adjutant General about the Rangers, and I am going to tell you if you don't stop that you are going to get hurt."

Baffled by Hamer's statement, Canales commented, "what...???" And Hamer repeated, "If you are not going to quit it, you are going to get hurt."

Canales regained his composure and asked Hamer, "Will you repeat that to somebody, I would like to have a witness to that."

Canales then led Hamer down the sidewalk to a garage that was attached to the automobile sales business of Brownsville city commissioner Jesse Dennett. Canales then asked Dennett "to listen to what this man has to say."

Hamer attempted to explain the circumstances and Canales interrupted and instructed him to "repeat what you told me.....Didn't you just tell me that if I didn't quit making complaints against the Rangers to the Governor and the Adjutant General, that I was going to get hurt?"

Hamer didn't answer until commissioner Dennett asked him point blank, "Did you say that to Mr. Canales?"

Hamer replied, "Yes, sir."

Wesley Hall Looney, in his Master's Thesis at Texas Tech, writes that "Canales returned to his law office following the confrontation with Hamer. After reflecting on the enormity of the collaboration between Hanson and Hamer, Canales went to Cameron County Sheriff W.T.Vann for advice. Vann, who no doubt knew of Hamer's violent potential, already had heard of the incident from Canales's law partner, Oscar Dancy, and from James B. Wells. He had an answer ready for Canales: My advice to

you is to take a double-barreled shot-gun...and kill that man.....no jury would convict you."

J.T. Canales "replied to Vann...I am a Christian, and my religion tells me that I should not take the life of any man, even if it is to save my own life."

The Joint Committee of the House and Senate to investigate the charges against the State Ranger Force was called to order by Chairman W.H. Bledsoe at 10 a.m. Friday, January 31, 1919. Jose Tomas Canales, State Representative from Brownsville, Texas was duly sworn in and began his testimony before the Committee with reference to the charges prepared and filed by him concerning the State Ranger Force.

"My name is J. T. Canales. I was born in the old County of Nueces, Texas very near to the present town of /Premont/. I am 42years old, will be next month. I went to the public schools of my county, came to Austin and attended business college, from here I went to Kansas City and graduated in the public schools of Kansas City, Kansas, and from there I went to Michigan and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1899, and have been practicing law in the State of Texas ever since then as a general practitioner, criminal as well as civil law."

Canales continued, informing the Committee that he "was first elected Representative in 1904...and was re-elected in 1907 and 1909." He chose not to run again until 1916 "and then ran for re-election to the present Legislature" in 1918.

He stated that he had "lived in Brownsville and its vicinity since 1904 and was well acquainted with the conditions there" and all along the border and South Texas.

"I was born and raised on a ranch and am thoroughly acquainted with the Ranger business." He explained that his earliest recollections included the Texas Rangers and that his home, La Cabra Ranch had "been a haven for the Rangers. They stayed there, were stationed there, came there at all hours, got our horses, got meals there, and they got our services. I have known among the Ranger forces some of the noblest and best men that I

know, Captain Hughes, Captain Rogers, who is now United States Marshal, Captain Wright, who used to be Sergeant under Captain Hughes, and various other individuals. At that time they gave us protection. They were a capable set of men, and did not need any restriction because their own conscience was a self-restraint and law."

Canales then swore before the Committee "that the charges hereinafter made are not prompted by malice or any improper motive on my part, but for the purpose of enabling the Committee to investigate the abuses permitted in the present Ranger force in various sections of the State."

In the interest of relevancy only the charges that relate to the Llanos Mestenos will be noted.

Representative J.T. Canales then itemized his charges:

First. "I charge that on or about November 16, 1918 Rangers George B. Hurst and Daniel Hinojosa, while in a state of intoxication, discharged their pistols in the streets of San Diego, Duval County, Texas, and intimidated the citizens of said town that, and that afterwards, when complaints were made for their arrest, they made threats against the life of Constable Ventura R. Sanchez in the event he should execute the warrant of arrest against them."

Second: "I charge that Jesus Villarreal, a citizen of Duval County, while under the custody of Sergeant J.J. Edds together with other rangers, whose names at present are not known to me, on or about the 15th day of September, 1918, was tortured and brutally treated by said Rangers, assisted by one Royal Collins, in order to make him confess to a supposed violation of the law."

Third: "I charge that on or about October 5, 1918, Sergeant J.J. Edds, stationed at Rio Grande City, killed a man by the name of Lisando Munoz at Munoz's ranch which is near Rio Grande City under circumstances which makes said Edds guilty of murder in the second degree."

Fourth: "I charge that on or about September 2, 1918, one Jose Maria Gomez Salinas was murdered in Jim Hogg County by two Mexicans named Sabas Ozuna and Fredrico Lopez, under circumstances, that lead me to believe that said Mexicans were acting under the orders and at the request of Sergeant J.J. Edds."

In all J.T. Canales filed nineteen charges against the Texas Rangers.

(Part three of a four-part series)

Testimony of Attorney Thomas Wesley Hook

During the 1919 Texas Ranger Investigation conducted by a joint committee of the Legislature, State Representative J.T. Canales levied nineteen charges against the Rangers. Interestingly enough there was an additional charge filed in person by one of the ninety citizens that testified before the Investigating committee. Thomas Wesley Hook, a lawyer from Kingsville, Texas, testified that he was assaulted by two Texas Rangers at the Courthouse of Brooks County, Falfurrias, Texas.

The confrontation was a result of a petition prepared by Thomas Hook, at the request of "Mexican" citizens of Kingsville who were protesting and seeking relief from the abuse of law enforcement officers in Kingsville. The priest of the Mexican neighborhood Catholic Church approached Hook seeking his legal assistance in preparing a legal document protesting the arrest of several "Mexican citizens" and inquiring about the "disappearance" of two of those Mexican citizens at the hands of law enforcement officers.

Hooks complied with the request and prepared a petition that addressed "the indiscriminate killing of Mexicans in this State lately, without a trial, many of whom we believe were wholly innocent, and all of whom are presumed so until proved guilty; you see that we have reason to believe that our liberty and even our very lives are menaced. One or more of us may have incurred the displeasure of someone, and it seems only necessary for that someone to whisper our name to an officer, to have us imprisoned and killed without an opportunity to prove in a fair trial, the falsity of the charges against us. We have reason to believe that we may be denied, not only the right of trial by jury, and the right to be face to face with witnesses against us, and the right to counsel, and the right to crossquestion the witnesses accusing us, and the right to produce evidence of our innocence, but we, some of us who sign this petition, may be killed without even knowing the name of him who accuses."

The petition continued: "..let us point out that the great majority of the people of the Mexican race living in this city (Kingsville) and county, are honest, law-abiding and peaceful citizens, who labor for good order, community betterment and culture within their modest sphere. It is the right, guaranteed under the United States of America Constitution, to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, that each of us, and of these, expected. It is those rights which have been ruthlessly and violently denied. And we look to you, the constituted authority, the custodian to whom is entrusted the safe guarding of such rights to all, to safeguard such rights to us."

The petition was signed and copies were sent to the governor of Texas and the President of the United States.

Attorney Thomas Wesley Hook testified before the joint committee investigating the Texas Rangers and stated that several months after filing the petition, he was at a session of the District Court for Brooks County, sitting in "the attorneys enclosure of the District Court room" when a "man whom I afterwards learned was Texas Ranger Capt. John Saunders walked over to the table where I was standing and asked me if my name was Hook. I said 'yes, sir.'"

Capt. Saunders then said to Hook, "When you are at leisure I would like to see you."

In his testimony before the joint committee Attorney Thomas Hook recalled that he laid down some legal papers and followed Capt. John Saunders out of the courtroom and into the hallway where the Texas Ranger asked him, "Are you the (expletive deleted) that wrote that petition at Kingsville?"

Hook responded "I took data that was furnished me by a Mexican and put it in the form of a formal petition."

Capt. Saunders countered, "Don't you know that all that stuff was a damned lie?"

Hook quickly answered, "No, I don't, and more than that I believe it was all true."

Hook testified that Capt. Saunders "then drew his pistol, keeping the handle of it in his hand, and came down at me with his right hand. I warded the pistol off with my left and he recovered himself and came down again and again I caught his pistol and warded it off. He came down again and that time the second Ranger...grabbed my left hand with which I was warding off the pistol. However, I managed to free it and to ward off the pistol, and the Captain, he came down the fourth time with his pistol. I said then, 'you are a pretty officer to attack an unarmed citizen with a pistol."

Hook continued, "By then or about that time I made the statement, 'what is the matter with you, are you drunk?'

Capt. Saunders answered "Do I act as though I were drunk?"

Hook remarked, "You smell as though you were."

About that time deputy sheriff L. N. Porter and court reporter J. B. Dodson came upon the disturbance and Capt. Saunders stepped back and apologized to Hook, "I beg your pardon, I didn't know you were unarmed.."

Deputy Sheriff L. N. Porter then approached Hook and said, "Hook, he has done all he can, he has apologized, let him go." Porter then pushed Hook back into the District Courtroom.

Captain John Saunders was dismissed from the Texas Ranger force after members of the joint committee expressed outrage with his conduct. The bodies of the two Mexicans who had "disappeared" somewhere between Kingsville and Brownsville were never found. An investigation by the United States Department of Justice determined that the two had been killed by "State officers."

Final part of a four-part series.

Testimony of Claude McGill

During the proceedings of the Joint Committee investigating the Texas Rangers ninety citizens from all walks of life testified. One of them was Claude McGill from Alice, Texas.

McGill, who had ranching interests in Jim Wells, Duval, Nueces and Willacy counties, informed the committee that in March of 1918, personal business called for a trip to the San Antonio Viejo ranch in Jim Hogg County. It was a business trip that took an unexpected turn of events as McGill drove blindly into a raid by Mexican bandits that were occupying the ranch and holding the owners hostage.

San Antonio Viejo has an interesting history. It was an old Indian campsite often used by Native Americans as they conducted raids into Mexico. In 1805, Don Francisco Xavier Vela received a Spanish Land Grant that included the area that would become known as San Antonio Viejo. He surveyed the property, brought in livestock and built a hacienda from native stone. He improved the ponds that held the water from the wells and constructed stone water troughs. All to no avail, as San Antonio Viejo proved to be too far from the protection of Spanish soldiers; and the constant attacks from roving bands of Indians eventually caused Vela to abandon the site.

During the late 1840's San Antonio Viejo was one of the campsites frequented by a group of Texas Rangers commanded by Rip Ford. Ford's mounted men would roam the Llano Mesteno region setting up temporary campsites along creeks and springs like the "Agua Dulce, the San Fernando and the Santa Gertrudis." They would patrol and reconnoiter the brush country down to San Antonio Viejo, and then pushed northward to Los Ojuelos, located between San Diego and Laredo, Texas.

In his testimony Claude McGill informed the committee that he "left Alice about two o'clock in the afternoon and went to Hebbronville, which is about sixty miles and about thirty miles on down to the San Antonio Viejo Ranch." McGill related that he was accompanied by Oscar Thompson and a man named Franklin. They went in a car owned by Thompson and

"driven by a Mexican boy."

Franklin was the foreman of the East Ranch in San Antonio Viejo.

McGill continued "when we got to Hebbronville Mr. Thompson didn't go any further with us and I went on down with Mr. Franklin driven by the Mexican boy." McGill never identifies the "Mexican boy."

The group made its way to Tom East's San Antonio Viejo Ranch and when the car entered the gate and drove up the lane, past a barn and into the yard, Claude McGill "saw a lot of horses...and men with guns."

It was very dark and the only thing McGill could see was what was in front of the car's headlights. He recalled that the car stalled in the sand.

He testified before the committee that "I don't know what they did to the Mexican boy, I was sitting on the back seat, but the next thing I knew something hit me under the chin. I could skylight a figure or figures I didn't see more than one at the time and then I felt rather knocks in the breast; it didn't take long to discover I saw Winchesters."

McGill continued, "They addressed me in Mexican and says 'if you've got a gun I'll kill you.' I made no answer to that, and he says again very hurriedly and seemed very much excited 'if you have a gun I'll kill you.' I says in English then, 'what do you want?' He says to me in Spanish 'get out of the car' and caught me by the shoulder and gave a pretty good yank and I stepped out, and they searched me."

Shortly afterwards one of the bandits brought a lantern. A Mexican, whom McGill presumed to be the leader, approached him and yelled out in Spanish "we want horses, guns, and money."

He then instructed McGill to lead him to the store. McGill recalled that "it had already occurred to me that I won't try what Mexican I can talk, I won't try it. I understood what he said, and I didn't move."

Texas Ranger Sterling, who was present at the Texas Ranger Investigation hearing, wrote that Claude McGill had the members of the committee as well as the public in the room, captivated by his recollection.

Sterling wrote that McGill related to the committee that when the Mexican bandit instructed him to lead him to the store he poked him with his Winchester and said "Picale....Picale."

At this time, a member of the investigating committee asked Claude, "And what did you do Mr. McGill?"

Sterling recalls that Claude McGill looked at the legislator and calmly answered, "well, I Picaled." And the room filled with the roar of laughter from those who understood "Mexican."

McGill, along with one of Franklin's sons, led the bandits to the ranch store, which they sacked, stealing "saddle blankets, leggings, bridles, shoes, shirts and pants."

Afterwards, the bandits escorted McGill and young Franklin to the foreman's house where they were instructed to sit and wait for further instructions.

A short while later young Franklin was taken outside and when he returned he informed McGill and the other captives, one of which was his mother that "they want to go to Hebbronville and want to take me with them." Young Franklin's mother cried out "why??" and he answered, they want me "to show them the man who had the keys to the bank."

McGill testified that the bandits used one car with young Franklin as the driver and "they took our car with Thompson's boy for a driver and left for Hebbronville, leaving some guards with us, five that I saw, and it was about eleven o'clock when they left and returned about three" in the morning.

The bandits never reached Hebbronville. For whatever reason, the drivers were instructed to stop and return to San Antonio Viejo.

After they arrived at the East Ranch, McGill recalled that the bandits "stirred about some and the captain and another one came up to where we were and....said in Mexican, 'I am going to leave. If you all don't attempt to get away from here you won't be molested. If you do, you will be killed."

As he was leaving, the captain said, "Now the treatment that we have accorded you comes from the fact that you have treated us right." He then said, "Adios" and left.

During their captivity McGill, The East, and the Franklins were never tied up, shackled, nor handcuffed. But they were confined to the Franklin house, where they remained after the bandits left.

After they were confident that the bandits had indeed left, McGill and the other men made their way to the East house where they found rifles and ammunition.

McGill recalled that Tom East then went to the camp where his Mexican vaqueros were located and sent one of them to Hebbronville to inform the Sheriff and the Texas Rangers about the raid.

Shortly after daylight Jim Hogg County Sheriff Pat Craighead, Texas Ranger Captain William Lee Wright accompanied by a posse of Special Rangers arrived at San Antonio Viejo and immediately picked up the trail of the Mexican raiders and followed it toward the border.

The posse caught up with the bandits at the Javelina Ranch and after a brief skirmish, the raiders made good their escape across the Rio Bravo, leaving one of their members dead.

The Mexican bandit raid of the San Antonio Viejo ranch in Jim Hogg County illustrated part of the lawless scenario that prevailed in South Texas from 1915 to 1919. The raiders conducted their depredations and then retreated across the Rio Grande where the unstable conditions nurtured by the Revolution that Mexico was enduring provided a safe haven or refuge.

On the other hand the Texas Rangers, who were responsible for deterring such raids and providing protection, were often overzealous in carrying out their duties and consequently committed atrocities that J.T. Canales considered a "shame and disgrace to my native state."

Unfortunately, despite all the testimony that supported Canales's charges against the Rangers, the state legislature voted down his bill to reorganize

the legendary law enforcement arm of the Lone Star State.

Jose Tomas Canales, disappointed and frustrated with the results, decided against running for re-election.