

WASHINGTON, DC—Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez (TX-20) and staff continue to closely monitor the swine flu virus after news that 40 mild cases were reported in the United States. None of these were in Congressional District 20, but individuals experiencing flu-like symptoms are encouraged to contact a medical doctor for treatment. Congressman Gonzalez issued the following statement urging his constituents to take the necessary precautions:

“We are taking the confirmed cases of swine flu in the U.S. very seriously. We see them as a cause for concern, but not panic. My office is working with federal, state, and local public health and security authorities to make sure we are taking every step necessary to protect the health and safety of the American people. We have been in close contact with San Antonio Metro Health, who continues to provide local physicians with the proper guidance. Updated Bexar County information can be found at: <http://www.sanantonio.gov/health/>.

“The Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency as a preventive measure to ensure that we have the resources we need available. We cannot afford for any of our people to become ill with this virus. We must all be very careful and take the necessary precautionary methods that health officials are recommending. At this time, CDC recommends that U.S. travelers avoid all nonessential travel to Mexico to prevent further outbreaks of swine flu in the United States.

“It is important that people wash their hands frequently and cover their nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. If you have flu-like symptoms, please contact your medical doctor. All Americans who have questions about swine flu or what they should do to prevent its transmission should visit the Centers for Disease Control website at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu>, which will be updated regularly.”

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□ **H1N1 Flu Resources**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>

Department of Health and Human Services

<http://pandemicflu.gov/faq/swineflu/>

Texas Department of State Health Services

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/default.shtm>

Travelers Guidance

<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/contentSwineFluUS.aspx>

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Texas' State Swine Flu Call Center □

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1-888-777-5320