



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

House of Representatives

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUEEN ISABELLA
CAUSEWAY COLLAPSE

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

Of Texas

In the House of Representatives

September 15, 2026.

Mr. Gonzalez of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the tragic Queen Isabella Causeway Collapse.

On this day 25 years ago, four days after a fateful day for our nation, South Texas experienced our own catastrophe. On September 15, 2001, a ship struck a supporting pillar of the Queen Isabella Causeway, a vital bridge connecting South Padre Island, a popular tourist beach destination, to the South Texas mainland. The collision caused sections of the bridge to collapse into the Laguna Madre, claiming the lives of eight out of the 11 South Texans who dropped into the water. The collision also temporarily severed the only roadway to South Padre Island.

This tragedy forever affected the families of the victims, survivors, emergency responders, and our community.

On this solemn anniversary, we honor all those affected by this dark day in South Texas history, remember the eight individuals who lost their lives, and extend our deepest sympathies to their families.

Mr. Speaker, the 34th Congressional District of Texas will never forget this tragedy or the profound impact it continues to have on families and communities throughout South Texas.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

Signed this 15th day of September, 2026.

Vicente Gonzalez

Member of Congress

34th Congressional District of Texas