

## **Blanchard reinvigorated for congressional bid**



U.S. Congressional candidate Denise Saenz Blanchard plans on becoming the first Latina to serve in the House of Representatives in the state of Texas. (Photo by Michael Rodriguez)

**By MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ**  
*Special to the PRESS*

Following a candid interview Wednesday with District 27 U.S. Congressional candidate Denise Saenz Blanchard, one thing became evident: She's a natural orator.

Granted, Blanchard (D-Brownsville) began the interview for this story knowing exactly what to say to appear stately. After all, serving former Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz for 19 years – not to mention three years as his chief of staff – may have done well in preparing Blanchard for the political arena.

Still, with all that experience she remains a political newcomer – (this is her first time running for public office) in what's already become a hotly contested race packed with five candidates. Then there's the fact that Congress is currently contending with an all-time low approval rating by the American public.