

The Network of Texas IAF Organizations

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[Press Conference via Zoom](#)

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Network of Texas IAF Organizations, along with Public Officials, Hold Press Conference to Call on Comptroller Hegar to Abandon Attempt to Gut Chapter 313 Transparency and Accountability

The Network of Texas IAF Organizations will be holding a **[Press Conference on Wednesday, December 15th at 1:00pm via Zoom](#)** calling on Texas Comptroller Glen Hegar to abandon his proposal to **[gut the reporting and accountability requirements of the failed Chapter 313 corporate welfare program](#)**. **Also speaking will be State Senator Jose Menendez - San Antonio, Austin AISD Trustee Ofelia Zapata, and State Rep. Vikki Goodwin - Austin.** Chapter 313, which costs taxpayers over \$1 Billion per year in school district tax giveaways to major oil, gas, and manufacturing companies, did not get reauthorized this legislative session due to opposition from the **[Texas IAF, allies, and a bi-partisan group of legislators](#)**. Because the program is set to expire in December of 2022, there has been a rush of new applications, and Comptroller Hegar's proposed rule change would relieve companies of having to submit their biennial reports with their projected revenues and progress on their projects.

“This proposed rule change gives corporations, who are taking tens of millions from schoolchildren for their bottom lines, the ability to escape scrutiny from taxpayers. We expect more from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, whose job it is to protect our precious tax dollars,” said Fr. Miles Brandon of St. Julian of Norwich Episcopal Church and a leader with Central Texas Interfaith-IAF.

[Major exposés demonstrated the program repeatedly failed to meet requirements on job creation, expected revenue, and return on investment](#). Because Texas taxpayers have to make up the lost revenue to school districts giving 10-year Chapter 313 tax breaks to corporations, school districts across the state are **[losing out on over \\$1 Billion every year in potential funding](#)**. Citizens have until December 19th **[to submit comments to the Comptroller](#)** on the proposed rule change.

“The end of Chapter 313 has led to a rush of applications across Texas in its final year, with some companies even submitting multiple 10-year applications for the same project, so that their tax breaks are stacked over 20-30 years”, said Minister Jaqueline Hailey of New Hope Baptist Church in Houston and a leader with The Metropolitan Organization-IAF. “If the Comptroller guts Chapter 313's transparency, another generation of Texas school children will be paying for this failed corporate giveaway program with no accountability.”

[Register here for the Press Conference on Wednesday, December 15th at 1PM](#)

**The Network of Texas IAF Organizations are non-partisans; institutionally based community organizations whose purpose is to train leaders to organize families around issues which affect their quality of life. The network includes Communities Organized for Public Service and The Metro Alliance and ICAN in San Antonio, The Border Organization, Valley Interfaith in the Rio Grande Valley; TMO in Houston; EPISO and Border Interfaith In El Paso; Austin Interfaith; ACT in Fort Worth; Dallas Area Interfaith; AMOS - Arlington, The West Texas Organizing Strategy; and Beaumont, Port Arthur and Orange.*

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