

The Network of Texas IAF Organizations

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For Immediate Release
February 22, 2023

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TEXAS IAF STATEMENT ON INDUSTRY GROUPS ATTEMPTS TO RESURRECT FAILED “[VAMPIRE FUND](#)” CHAPTER 313 PROGRAM

It is shameful that [major lobby groups in oil, gas, and manufacturing are asking Chambers of Commerce and City Economic Development Directors](#) to support taking money from schoolchildren to line the pockets of major corporations. Chapter 313 is a defunct and miserably failed program, [whose legacy will cost taxpayers over \\$31Billion in the next several decades](#) to support tax breaks for multinational corporations. This program is literally sucking the blood out of our school funding system and state budget, yet lobby groups continue to try to bring it back from the grave like Dracula. [We agree with Comptroller Hegar who said in December](#): “*Despite receiving billions of dollars in property tax abatements over the life of the program and potentially billions more in approved incentives just this year, these companies and their attorneys are asking Texas taxpayers to shoulder even more despite the Legislature’s decision to discontinue the program.*”

Chapter 313’s reauthorization [was stopped last legislation by a bi-partisan group of legislators, the Texas IAF, and allies](#). The Texas Association of Business, Texas Oil & Gas Association, and Texas Association of Manufacturers are making one final attempt to resurrect Texas’ largest corporate welfare program, yet have no concrete proposal to share with taxpayers and the legislature. This legislative session Texas needs to invest in workforce development and education, not corporate welfare on the backs of schoolchildren.

*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.