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Contact: Rev. Michael Floyd
512-771-9691

Samsung Ask Texas Taxpayers To Foot \$4.8 Billion Bill For Future School Taxes. Governor Abbott Endorses Biggest Corporate Welfare Deal in Texas History

[The Texas Comptroller's Office just released the details on eleven Chapter 313 corporate welfare applications](#) that Samsung Electronics Co, Ltd. quietly submitted to Manor and Taylor ISD's on the night of the Uvalde shooting. All told, Samsung is asking for \$4.8 Billion in school district tax abatements for projects it admits it has no current plans to build, promising only 275 “qualifying jobs” over the next 30 years in total, at a cost to taxpayers of a staggering \$17.5 Million per job.¹ This shameful grab at nearly \$5 Billion in potential school funding comes at a time when districts are struggling to retain teachers and staff and when hardworking families are hurting yet receiving no such tax breaks. Just as shameful is the fact that Governor Abbott is lauding what would be the biggest taxpayer giveaway in Texas history, robbing billions in potential school funding, and that Comptroller Hegar is even considering certifying it.

[Central Texas Interfaith \(CTI\), its Texas Industrial Areas Foundation \(IAF\) sister-organizations, allies, and a bi-partisan group of legislators fought successfully to stop the reauthorization of the failed Chapter 313 program in the last legislative session.](#) The program proved to deliver little in terms of taxpayer benefit, good jobs, and accountability. Since the current legislation doesn't expire December 31, 2022, [companies like Samsung have rushed to submit over 400 applications before the deadline](#) in the hopes of securing taxpayer-funded giveaways decades into the future. For example, one of Samsung's applications is for a project that it says it might start building in 2029, but wouldn't be fully operation until 2043! We call on Comptroller Hegar, Manor ISD, and Taylor ISD to reject Samsung's applications for taxpayer handouts. In this period of tight budgets and skyrocketing costs of living, our families work hard and pay their taxes. We call on Samsung, whose revenues are currently rising at a rate of 15% per quarter, to do the same.

Central Texas Interfaith is a non-partisan, multi-ethnic, multi-issue coalition of 50 religious congregations, schools, unions, and civil organizations who work together to address public issues that affect the well-being of families and neighborhoods in our community. <https://www.austininterfaith.org>

¹ A “qualifying job” is a job that meets the minimum wage and benefit requirements of the Chapter 313 statute. Companies are required to disclose the number of qualifying jobs they promise, in exchange for the tax abatement, on their application.