

July 23rd, 2025

Dear Chairman Perry, Vice Chairman Flores, and Members of the Senate Select Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Flooding,

Our hearts are with the families, businesses, and communities across Central Texas who have been devastated by the recent flooding. The scale of loss is overwhelming—and yet, as we’ve seen time and time again, Texans are resilient. In that same spirit, the Texas business community stands ready to help rebuild stronger than before.

At the Texas Association of Business, we believe recovery must be a shared effort. That’s why we created the Texas Chamber Flood Relief Task Force, organizing weekly calls with local Chambers of Commerce, business owners, and residents across the Hill Country. Our goal is to serve as the voice of the Texas business community in advocating for legislation that not only brings immediate relief but also strengthens our long-term preparedness and resilience.

We applaud Lieutenant Governor Patrick for his leadership in establishing the Senate Select Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Flooding and look forward to working with you to serve the people of Texas.

Over the past two weeks, we've worked with our local chambers to identify the following policies as possible solutions:

- Texas Business Recovery Grant & Loan Program Reforms: Building on the Micro-Business Disaster Recovery Loan Program to provide relief for small businesses impacted by natural disasters and promote long-term economic development.
- Supported Fast-Track Permitting for Disaster Areas: Ensuring the government is a partner and not a barrier in rebuilding efforts by providing flexible fast-track permitting relief and helping build capacity for local communities throughout the rebuilding process.
- Texas Disaster Contingency Fund Enhancements: Ensuring local communities can access funding to support the rebuilding effort, particularly for local agencies experiencing surges in applications and workload.

Texas’ recovery depends on the strength of all its sectors—public and private—working together. We’re committed to being part of the solution and welcome the opportunity to support your efforts.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out with questions or to engage further on any solutions. We look forward to working with you, and thank you for your service and dedication to the great State of Texas.

