



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JOE STRAUS
SPEAKER

December 12, 2017

The Honorable Byron Cook
Chair, House Select Committee on Economic Competitiveness
Capitol Building
Room GW.7
Austin, TX 78701

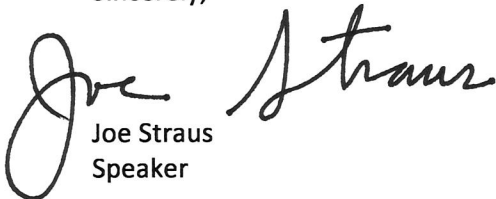
Dear Chairman Cook:

I want to thank you for your leadership of the House Select Committee on Economic Competitiveness, and I want to thank all of the members of your committee for your work and dedication. This committee has put a needed spotlight on the challenges and opportunities facing the Texas private sector, and your upcoming report will provide critical guidance going forward.

I know that the committee has held a couple of extensive hearings and heard from dozens of witnesses. Information has also been submitted to you outside of the hearing process. It's important that you have the time necessary to channel the data you have gathered into a report that is useful and comprehensive. Please take the time that you need to produce a report that suits this committee's mission, even if it takes a few weeks longer than originally anticipated. We always knew that the timeline for this committee's work was ambitious, and the quality of the report is most important.

Thank you again for your work. I hope that you and the members of your committee enjoy the holidays, and I look forward to reading your findings and recommendations about how to best keep our private sector competitive.

Sincerely,


Joe Straus
Speaker