

January 17, 2008

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Growing Texas' economy is vitally important to the prosperity and quality of life of all in the state. As Comptroller, I am committed to creating an environment in which a healthy economy can flourish by assisting communities and businesses in their efforts to create new jobs and improve the standard of living of all Texans.

One of my responsibilities as Texas Comptroller is to analyze factors affecting the state's economy. So, my office will begin releasing a series of reports highlighting economic development issues unique to the various regions of this state.

*Texas in Focus: A Statewide View of Opportunities* is the first of these reports. It provides information on the cross-cutting issues that affect the state as a whole. Decision makers across Texas will be able to use these reports as a tool to drive growth in their regions.

The Texas economy is on the brink of a new era. How Texans meet these challenges is important for continued growth. I hope you will find this report helpful in meeting these challenges.

Sincerely,

Susan Combs

