

April 17, 2008

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As Comptroller, I am committed to creating an environment that encourages the Texas economy to continue to grow. My office stands ready to assist communities and businesses in their efforts to seek out new opportunities and create new jobs. Together we can improve the quality of life of all Texans.

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

*Texas in Focus: High Plains* is the first of these regional reports. It provides information on the issues that affect this area's 41 counties and highlights many of the region's successes. The region's decision makers will be able to use this report as a tool to drive economic growth.

The High Plains economy is changing. How the region meets the challenges and opportunities is critical for continued growth. I hope you will find this report helpful.

Sincerely,

Susan Combs

