

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JIM DUNNAM
DISTRICT 57

CAPITOL OFFICE:
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4S.2
POST OFFICE BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
(512) 463-0508
FAX (512) 463-5934
JIM.DUNNAM@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

DISTRICT OFFICE:
713 ELM STREET, SUITE 101
POST OFFICE BOX 1962
WACO, TEXAS 76703-1962
(254) 753-8546
TOLL FREE (866) 753-8546
FAX (254) 756-3197

February 17, 2009

By Hand Delivery

The Honorable
Rick Perry
Governor of Texas
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
Austin, Texas

Dear Governor:

As you know, President Barack Obama will today sign into law H.R.1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, also known as the federal economic stimulus bill. The stimulus bill contains nearly \$790 billion in tax cuts and key federal investments, including billions of dollars for infrastructure funding and incentives for job creation in Texas.

Although much of the details are still being learned by Federal, state and local officials, one thing is clear: the Recovery and Reinvestment Act will require prompt and thorough action on the part of Texas. For the next two years, we will have literally hundreds of decisions to make regarding the implementation of this stimulus package to assure protection of tax dollars and prudent investment in our future.

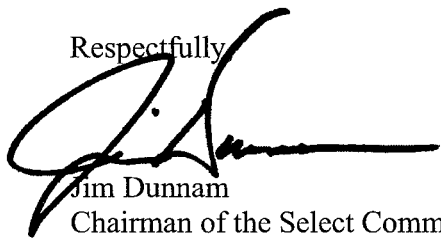
Today, there is one decision that matters most. The Act requires you or the Legislature to formally request investments from the stimulus bill and certify certain matters. There is a 45-day time limit on this request. If not requested, money available for Texas and Texans will go to other states.

I respectfully request that you immediately take the appropriate action under the Act to certify both that Texas will request and use the funds provided for by the Act and that the funds will be used to create jobs and promote economic growth. Because of ongoing deadlines, we do not need to delay acceptance, as there is a great deal of work necessary. If you would prefer to have the Legislature make the acceptance of the funds by concurrent resolution, which is also provided for in the Act, I stand ready to assist in that option. And if this is the case, I would request you designate the Legislature's consideration of the Act an emergency item for this legislative session so we can move the resolution more rapidly through the process.

Letter to the Governor of Texas
February 17, 2009

As chairman of the House Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding, I look forward to working closely with your office to assure that these funds are prudently used to benefit the citizens of Texas. Accountability and transparency are also important in this process, and I am interested in your thoughts on achieving those goals as well.

Respectfully



Jim Dunnam

Chairman of the Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding

cc: Hon. Joseph R. (Joe) Straus, 3d
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Hon. David H. Dewhurst
Lieutenant Governor of Texas