

March 22, 2020

The Honorable Glenn Hegar
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
P.O. Box 13528, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711-3528

Comptroller Hegar:

I hope you and your team are well as we navigate this unprecedented time in the history of our state in light of the global pandemic. As you know too well this new reality is creating significant disruption to daily life, as well as to Texans' ability to continue normal business operations. The impact of this threat is felt widely throughout the business community, well beyond the service businesses whose operations have been disrupted and, in some cases, have ceased. Many businesses are now focused on survival and not business as usual.

We appreciate your commitment to examining each tax due date as it approaches to determine what is in the best interest of hard-working Texans and our overall economy. Your recent comments regarding sales tax payments due in March made sense given that our local communities rely on these funds to provide health and emergency services.

On behalf of our members and the businesses they serve, we respectfully ask that you strongly consider moving the May 15 franchise tax deadline. We appreciate that the federal tax filing deadline has been moved 90 days to July 15, and businesses need this same relief with their Texas filings. If the deadline was moved 90 days to August 15 it would coincide with the second extension date for those required to pay by electronic funds transfer. It takes time for practitioners to prepare extensions, time that needs to be spent advising their clients under these very difficult circumstances.

Many states have taken action to provide taxpayers with relief from filing deadlines, penalties and fees. For your convenience, here is a link to the current list of actions that have been taken:

<https://www.aicpa.org/content/dam/aicpa/advocacy/tax/downloadabledocuments/coronavirus-state-filing-relief.pdf>

As you know, TXCPA members are always willing to provide insight and expertise. If there is assistance that our practitioners can provide, they are more than happy to do so. Thank you for your consideration and continued leadership. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I can be reached at 214-551-3291 or jray@tscpa.net.

Sincerely,



Jodi Ann Ray, CAE
President and CEO