

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Appropriations
For HJR 27

Compiled on: Monday, April 17, 2023 3:05 PM

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Hearing Date: April 17, 2023 9:00 AM

Terri Hall, Texas TURF, Texans for Toll-free Highways
Texans for Toll-free Highways
San Antonio, TX

This bill would create a GROW fund to dedicate a portion of the oil and gas tax to stay in West Texas to help maintain roads in the oil fields. The argument in favor is they fuel our state, so everyone benefits from their oil and gas. However, when we go down the road of carving out funds for just certain areas of the state, where would this end? Many parts of the state have excess wear and tear due to oil & gas exploration, but also other areas have heavy tractor trailers from trade, logging, and a host of other issues (ie - I-35 is the largest trade corridor transporting people and goods from the border into the interior of the U.S.). Our State Highway Fund is designed to distribute gas taxes fairly in order to maintain the entire system. If we start allowing certain sectors of the state to siphon off funds to their limited area, we will lose a comprehensive highway system and other areas may suffer due to dedicated funds to just one sector. For these reasons, we oppose HJR 27. Please do not vote for HJR 27.