



American Planning Association  
**Texas Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities for All*

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## ***SB 1261 – not ready to calendar!***

***This bill will put Texas businesses behind the curve for future economic success and will harm people in neighborhoods throughout the state.***

- A last-minute vote by the House Environmental Regulation Committee has approved SB 1261 by a slim 5-4 margin.
- The importance of this bill and its long-term implications for Texans cannot be overstated. Texas residents and businesses are impacted now by more days with extreme hot temperatures, longer periods of droughts, decreasing aquifer levels and extreme weather events like Hurricane Harvey. Greenhouse gas emissions contribute to these hazards and harm the health of our people, the success of our businesses and the State's bottom line.
- Businesses worldwide are competing to find solutions to reduce, manage and regulate these emissions. Without the ability to innovate where they are based, Texas businesses will lose out on this important business opportunity.
- Local initiatives in individual Texas regions or communities are most likely to create innovation that will succeed in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The impacts and possible solutions are very different in different parts of this vast state. Solutions that make sense in Rockport probably aren't the right ones for Midland or Laredo.
- This legislation will tie the hands of innovators and hurt Texas' ability to address health, safety and economic issues.

### ***SB 1261 should be denied because:***

- ***It provides no ability to manage emissions where it counts – at the local level where they are generated. A one-size-fits-all statewide approach will not be effective or successful.***
- ***An issue this important needs full private and public discussion, not a last-minute rush to approval.***

***Please don't schedule SB 1261 for a Floor vote – it needs private and public agreement for a successful Texas solution.***

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Chance Sparks, AICP, President  
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