



**Chapter Officers**

Heather Nick, AICP

President

903.245.4459

[hnick@tylertexas.com](mailto:hnick@tylertexas.com)

Kelly Porter, AICP

President-Elect

817.392.7259

[Kelly.kris.porter@gmail.com](mailto:Kelly.kris.porter@gmail.com)

Carol Barrett, FAICP

Secretary

512.731.0755

[carolbarrett@gmail.com](mailto:carolbarrett@gmail.com)

Gary Mitchell, FAICP

Treasurer

281.721.4105

[gary@kendigkeast.com](mailto:gary@kendigkeast.com)

Chance Sparks, AICP

Past-President

512.312.0084

[cs@freese.com](mailto:cs@freese.com)

Rolandrea Russell

TML Representative

954.871.7683

[rolandrearussell@gmail.com](mailto:rolandrearussell@gmail.com)

**Executive Administrator**

Chelsea Irby, AICP

403 Cedar Mound Pass

**SENATE BILL 369**

April 12, 2023

Thank you, Chairman Bettencourt, for the opportunity to present information related to Senate Bill 369 and for your work on behalf of the Great State of Texas. My name is **Craig Farmer**, and I am here to testify on behalf of the American Planning Association - Texas Chapter (APA Texas) in **opposition to Senate Bill 369 as written**. APA Texas is an association of over 2,500 public and private sector planners that manage growth and plan for development in Texas.

The bill analysis states clearly what the *intent* of the bill is, and it is reasonable. We would therefore request some changes to the bill to:

- **Protect property owners from forced disannexation.** Forced disannexations are no better for property owners than forced annexations. Property owners should have the right to choose whether or not they stay in the city. Automatic disannexation wherever full service isn't provided would, in effect, immediately expel residents from a city, taking away their access to any municipal services that they do receive. We cannot imagine how this would be fair to property owners in annexed areas.
- Provide guidance for **termination of services that have already been provided**, compensation for any infrastructure that has already been built, and dissolution of associated interlocal agreements, special district creation, and utility service agreements for the area in question;
- Change the **definition** from 'full municipal services' to 'the services and facilities related to the limited purposes for which the area was annexed';

APA Texas works closely with the people who are designing, regulating and developing projects all over our state. Land use and development are our core areas of expertise. I thank you for your time and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Farmer, FAICP  
American Planning Association - Texas Chapter