

EPA Fact Sheet - Sample deliverable #1

To: Representative Lamar Smith

Chairman of the United States Committee on Science, Space and Technology

Although the EPA is a national organization, its scope of initiatives influences constituents of the Texas 21st district both economically and socially. Defunding the EPA would adversely affect this district, which may hurt reelection of the representative. With the district's employment rate above the national average (6.3% v 4.7%) and 1/3 of constituents below the age of 25, the representative should be especially sensitive to policies which could negatively affect the employment or education opportunities.

Education

- The University of Texas school system, in particular the Austin campus, has received millions of dollars in grant money from the EPA in recent years, which was used to train, educate, and employ district 21 denizens (epa.gov).
- The EPA guidelines on emissions provide standards for clean air within school districts, particularly vital in district 21 where high traffic roads increase the risk for asthma and heart disease among children. (publicintegrity.org)
- EPA grants to reduce emissions for diesel vehicles have been utilized in the district to modernize school buses for the safety of children while simultaneously infusing millions of dollars of economic activity around the modernization. (epa.gov)

Industry

- EPA grants towards oil well maintenance have allowed local, small and large well owners to remain in business. (epa.gov)
- EPA grants for retrofitting diesel vehicles enable self-employed truck drivers (where Texas boasts some of the highest numbers in the nation) to improve the reliability and efficiency of their vehicles, which is essential for the local energy industry. (bls.gov)
- The GreenChill EPA program has allowed local grocery stores in the district to modernize and significantly reduce energy costs enabling them to continue to serve residents. (energystar.gov)

Wellbeing

- The EPA's Energystar program saves consumers nationally over \$30 billion a year in utility bills. In addition, the certified homes program has promoted the construction of almost 100,000 new homes in the district, saving money for home owners, creating jobs, and improving the bottom line for several local businesses. (energystar.gov, marketplace.com)
- EPA policies protect the citizens of district 21 that live near the local pipelines and energy plants, allowing them to stay healthy and employed—reducing the need for government assistance. (epa.gov)
- EPA has granted over \$100 million to Texas to maintain water quality and waste management that would otherwise come from the state budget. (epa.gov)