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## Report: Stimulus a Flop in Texas

**\$18 billion in federal spending here had no impact on economic growth**

By Jim Forsyth

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A new report shows the \$778 billion stimulus bill has been a flop in Texas, 1200 WOAI news reports.

The libertarian-leaning Texas Public Policy Foundation studied the \$18 billion Texas received under the stimulus plan, and found that the state has very little to show for it.

"Unemployment remains higher than normal and public sector job creation remains subdued," James Quintero of the TPPF reported.

The TPF report did not quantify the number of jobs created by the stimulus money, but Quintero compared the promises of Obama Administration officials with the actual results on the ground in Texas.

"Many of the economic and financial indicators that the stimulus was going to improve, have actually declined," Quintero said, citing areas like construction employment, which was supposed to boom with stimulus dollars flowing to roads, bridges, and public buildings, and he says small business in Texas has not benefitted.

Quintero says now is the time for government to concede that throwing money at the recession is not helping, and it's time for the federal government to cut back on spending and taxes, and get out of the way of job creation.

"The tighter the rein that government can place on it's spending, the more private sector activity you will be able to see," he said.

Quintero said since the stimulus money began flowing to Texas, the only sectors in the state's economy which have created jobs have been health care, which received relatively little stimulus money, education, where stimulus funds have either been rejected by the state or are held up by a parliamentary trick by Austin Democratic Congressman Lloyd Doggett, and government spending.

The report points out that Governor Perry's rejection of some \$500 million in stimulus money to pay additional unemployment benefits, due to strings placed on the money by the federal government, had no impact on the state's economy.

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