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July 1, 2015

Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott:

I am deeply concerned by press reports of a recent email exchange that occurred between you and Richard Weekley dated Wednesday May 20, 2015.

The email exchange between you and a major Republican donor speaks to the shadiness and corruption that has characterized state government for several years, including the issuance of hundreds of millions in no bid contracts to cronies that occurred during your watch as attorney general. You exhibit an eagerness to take official action to please a donor for the purposes of political retribution. For years, members of the Texas business community and others have spoken of state leaders' tendencies toward "pay to play" and official retribution for supporting persons politically opposed or out of favor with state officeholders. Your email confirms that reality.

It is disturbing that you appear willing to use your office to reward big donor friends and punish adversaries purely for politics. That is unethical and quite possibly illegal.

As governor, you should use your office only in the best interest of Texas and not as a means of political payback.

Texans deserve much better.

Sincerely,



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress