


**Your business.
Your voice.
April 7th**

A thick, hand-painted red brushstroke underline is positioned beneath the text "April 7th". It starts under the 'A' and ends under the 'h', with a slightly irregular, artistic edge.

**Public Hearing Monday, April 7,
2026 | 10:00 a.m. Central Time
Online only**

[Join The Hearing](#)

Your business. Your voice. April 7th



The Texas Comptroller's office has scheduled a public hearing on proposed amendments to the state's Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) program — the emergency rule changes that decertified thousands of Texas small businesses overnight. This is your opportunity to put your comments on the official record.

Public Hearing Monday, April 7, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. Central Time | Online only

Join by web browser:

<https://txcpa.webex.com/txcpa/j.php?MTID=mac3fedd0742ad312afab6a350ab5e570>

Join via Webex app — Access code: 2481 363 9967 | Password: SPDRULES

To register to speak at the hearing, contact Gerard MacCrossan no later than April 6:

Email: Gerard.MacCrossan@cpa.texas.gov | **Phone:** (512) 463-4468

Can't Make April 7? You Can Still Be Heard.

Written comments are accepted through April 12, 2026. Submit by email or mail — include your name, your business, and how this rule change has affected you.

Email: Gerard.MacCrossan@cpa.texas.gov Mail: Gerard MacCrossan, P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711

Why Your Voice Matters

This rule change was made without public input. Thousands of small businesses that relied on HUB certification to compete for state contracts lost that standing without warning — affecting revenue, employees, and long-term stability. The public comment period is the one formal opportunity for affected business owners, contractors, and subcontractors to be heard before this rule is finalized.

Show up. Speak up. Submit a comment.

Questions? Contact info@gbef.com.

TALKING POINTS & COMMENT GUIDE

For distribution to affected business owners and advocates — not for public posting



The Goal

The April 7 hearing and April 12 comment deadline are your opportunity to tell the Comptroller's office, on the official record, how this rule change has hurt your business. Comments don't need to be long. They need to be specific, factual, and focused on impact.

What to Focus On

Keep your comments centered on whether/how the rule change affected your business and your people. The most effective comments will speak to one or more of the following:

- Revenue lost or at risk because of lost HUB certification
- Contracts you were disqualified from, or bids you could not submit
- Employees you've had to lay off or expect to
- Business operations you've had to reduce, restructure, or shut down
- Subcontractors or partner businesses also affected downstream

What to Avoid

Don't recommend what the new rule should say or do. This is not the time to propose a replacement program or preview what you'd like to see in future legislation. Focus entirely on the harm this change caused, not the fix.

Don't frame your comments around race or identity. Focus on your business, your contracts, and your employees.

Your Comment Template

Use this as a starting point. Personalize it with your specifics.

My name is [Name]. I am the [owner/founder/operator] of [Business Name], a [brief description — e.g., construction firm / IT services company / facility management company] based in [City, Texas]. I have operated this business for [X] years.

As a result of the Comptroller's emergency rule changes to the HUB program, I have [choose what applies]:

- Lost [\$ amount] in contracts I was previously certified to compete for
- Been disqualified from an active bid for [project/agency] worth approximately [\$ amount]
- Had to lay off [X] employees, with [X] more positions at risk
- Had to [restructure / reduce operations / turn down work] because I can no longer qualify as a HUB-certified vendor

This rule change took effect without warning and without public input. I am asking that these comments be entered into the official record.

Important notes:

- Hearing speakers typically have 1-2 minutes. Know your numbers and keep it tight.
- Written comments by email or mail are equally valid and will be part of the official record.
- Deadline for written comments: April 12, 2026.

Additional Ways to Support:

1. Learn more about the ongoing HUB case, [Globe Express Trucking Inc., et al. v. Kelly Hancock, Acting Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, et al.](#)

Donate to [support the litigation process.](#)