



Window on State Government

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Comptroller Susan Combs Leads Texas Delegation Seeking New Business Opportunities With Spain

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs travels to Madrid, Spain, this week, leading a group of state government officials and business leaders on a business recruitment and trade mission.

“Texas’ strategy to attract new jobs and promote economic growth includes convincing companies across the globe to invest in Texas,” Combs said. “We are working to increase Texas’ share of the global economy and promoting the state’s reputation as a great place to do business.”

The itinerary for the trade mission includes a day-long Texas Economic Development Forum and meetings with the Spanish Secretary of State of Trade, a representative from the Spanish Trade Commission and business financiers and site selectors, plus visits to several Spanish companies.

“Texas and Spain have strong economic ties,” Combs said. “Texas imported more than \$1.2 billion worth of goods from Spain in 2007. We exported approximately \$970 million in goods to that country in 2007, a nearly 51 percent increase over 2006.”

Texas’ top exports to Spain are petroleum and coal products, chemicals, agricultural products, transportation equipment and non-electrical machinery.

On behalf of Gov. Rick Perry and the state of Texas, Combs will also tout Texas as a business location for companies seeking to establish or expand U.S. operations and will offer the state’s assistance in finding opportunities and success in Texas.

“A company could not pick a better state to do business than Texas,” Combs said. “Texas is the nation’s top exporting state, with more than \$168 billion in exports in 2007. We have nine of the nation’s largest export trade gateways, and our geographic location is ideal for many businesses because of our proximity to Mexico and South America. Our favorable tax environment, tremendous work force, world-class universities and leadership in innovation and technology make Texas a great location for

businesses to grow and prosper.”

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