



**Texas Society of
CPA Certified Public Accountants**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 22, 2017

Contact: Kari Owen
972-687-8688
kowen@tscpa.net

TEXAS SOCIETY OF CPAS REQUESTS AUTOMATIC TAX AND REPORTING RELIEF FOR DECLARED NATURAL DISASTER AREAS

Recent letters to Congress request automatic and consistent tax and reporting relief for disaster areas

DALLAS (Sept. 22, 2017) — Following the enormous devastation caused by recent hurricanes along the Texas Gulf Coast, Florida and U.S. territories in the Caribbean, the Texas Society of CPAs (TSCPA) has issued two letters to Congress requesting additional tax and reporting relief.

The first letter, sent on Sept. 8, requests legislation that would permanently and automatically extend the deadlines for filing all tax documents and related elections in the event of a federally-declared disaster. The letter states that TSCPA “see[s] no reason to distinguish between human suffering of this nature or to put taxpayers and their professionals through the additional burden of seeking tax relief each time a disaster occurs, in addition to dealing with the disaster itself.”

The second letter, sent on Sept. 20, requests specific tax relief measures for those affected by Hurricane Harvey and other recent natural disasters, as well as automatic and consistent permanent tax relief for all declared natural disasters. The letter states that it’s “vitaly important that Congress pass additional legislation to aid individuals and businesses that are victims of these historic events.” TSCPA supports several tax relief measures for victims of Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, all past federally-declared disasters for which the statute of limitations is still open, and all future federally-declared disasters. These relief measures include waiving individual casualty loss limitations, increasing the property replacement period to five years, waiving the penalty for early retirement withdrawal, and allowing a housing exemption for displaced individuals, among others.

Three congressional offices have reached out to TSCPA for additional technical discussion on necessary disaster-related tax extenders and taxpayers that have been impacted by this need.

“As the victims of Hurricane Harvey and Irma start to rebuild their lives, the Texas Society of CPAs is working diligently to ensure that the appropriate tax relief measures are extended to all individuals and businesses in the affected areas,” said Jodi Ann Ray, president and CEO of TSCPA. “The Society is encouraging Congress to provide a mechanism that does not require piecemeal efforts every time a disaster occurs. We are hopeful that these efforts will lead to permanent and consistent tax relief for all future federally-declared disasters.”

TSCPA has created a [Hurricane Harvey Assistance](#) page on their website for those who have been affected by the devastating floods. Continuous updates will be made to this page with relevant information for TSCPA members and their clients and companies, as well for the general public.

[Read the Sept. 8 letter to Congress here.](#)

[Read the Sept. 20 letter to Congress here.](#)

ABOUT TSCPA

The [Texas Society of CPAs](#) (www.tscpa.org) is a nonprofit, voluntary, professional organization representing Texas CPAs. The society has 20 local chapters statewide and more than 27,000 members, one of the largest in-state memberships of any state CPA society in the United States. TSCPA is committed to serving the public interest with programs that advance the highest standards of ethics and practice within the CPA profession.