

Texans For Public Justice

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Mr. Tim Cook, CEO
Apple
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014

Dear Tim,

March 22, 2012

What's cooler than when somebody in the right place at the right time helps solve the world's biggest problems?

We were sitting here in Austin thinking about your agonizing struggle to dispose of *\$100 billion in cash reserves* when—SNAP!—the proverbial apple fell off the tree onto our heads. Our cash-strapped state just agreed to give [\\$21 million in tax dollars](#) to Apple to build your Austin-based “Americas Operations Center,” we recalled. And our city and county governments are seriously considering tossing in another [\\$14.5 million in incentives](#). That's when we realized that *our* tax dollars are exacerbating your excruciating cash surplus.

Tim, if the world's biggest technology company is choking on too large a wad of cash then you ought to stop taking corporate welfare. This won't solve *all* your cash-flow problems. But refusing money from governments that can't afford to give it away does diminish the cash flow that's burying Apple alive. It also eases heavy burdens on governments and we the beleaguered taxpayers.

If you refuse to go on the government dole you still can expand your operations in Austin (most local businesses here operate without public funding). In fact, we'd love for you and Foxconn to move your manufacturing plants to Texas. If you pay Texas factory workers good wages that, too, will help wean your troubling cash reserves.

Everything may be [sunny in Cupertino](#) but it ain't in Texas. If you aim your iPad at a few of these links, you'll see that Texas public schools already laid-off [32,000 workers](#)—including 12,000 teachers. Those same schools face another [\\$2 billion in funding cuts](#) this September from a state government that just awarded \$21 million in taxpayer funds to the world's fattest company.

Tim, if Apple takes money it doesn't need from our schools today, what kind of workforce will it find in Austin in 10 or 15 years? And how can you be sure that there still will be folks like us here to tackle your cash-flow problems?

Please do Apple and Texas a big favor. Y'all come down to Austin. But stop taking corporate welfare that you know you don't need.

Sincerely,

Your friends at Texans for Public Justice