

# **PROFESSIONAL ROOFING STANDARDS COUNCIL**

*Advocating for cost-efficient competition and design safety for Texas*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **HB 800 hearing will reveal how closed bidding costs Texas taxpayers millions in “sweetheart” roofing deals**

Austin --- Testimony at Thursday’s House committee hearing on House Bill 800 will show how the bidding process by non-profit agencies established to save money on roofing public buildings is actually costing school, municipal and county taxpayers millions annually in inflated prices hidden by collusion and stonewalling.

“As Government Efficiency and Reform committee members’ questions reveal how these deals are made to exclude open bidding, it will become apparent that Texas taxpayers are paying as much as 25 percent in inflated material costs on reroofing schools and other public buildings,” PRSC spokesman Edis Oliver, P.E., said, adding, “A \$1 million new roof on a high school is driven up to around \$1.25 million under the costs hidden in these sweetheart deals where material costs are not stated clearly.”

Oliver noted that these deals are made more outrageous by the fact that thousands of teachers face layoffs. “PRSC urges every school board members, and other local government leaders, to demand an audit of the actual roofing materials costs being paid by taxpayers directly or indirectly.”

Oliver said the committee will hear from industry leaders whose firms have been barred from bidding on roofing contracts because buying agencies have tailored bidding requirements to suit a single source and those agencies resist providing the transparency the public expects in any tax-based transaction.

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