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For Immediate Release

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*Statement from Jay Doegey, Chair of the Cities Aggregation Power Project:*

## **Solomons, Keffer, Davis and Turner are heroes for Texas consumers**

"When it comes to protecting consumer pocketbooks, among the most important bills of the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature were those offered by Chairman Burt Solomons, Chairman Jim Keffer, Rep. Sylvester Turner and Sen. Wendy Davis. Each pushed measures to help bring relief to Texas electric ratepayers. They clearly identified the needs of their constituents and they acted to meet them.

But the electric industry – which arguably controls the most powerful lobby machine in the state – has blocked reform once again. Opposition from Big Energy doomed many important reforms this year -- including those to limit monopoly control by big generators, to crack down on improper manipulation of the wholesale market and to take control of the massive ERCOT boondoggle known as the nodal project.

These bills, supported by editorial boards and consumer groups across Texas, clearly would have marked a step forward in a state where ratepayers have gone from enjoying rates well below the national average to prices well above it. In Texas, even the best deals under deregulation are too high. Rep. Solomons, Rep. Keffer, Sen. Davis and Rep. Turner took a brave stand on behalf of consumers in sponsoring these bills and we salute them for it.

We also applaud their successes -- including Rep. Solomons' bill to bring additional sunlight to the PUC and ERCOT, and Sen. Davis' measure to increase disclosure requirements on retail electric bills. We urge Gov. Perry to promptly sign the bills that include these consumer friendly provisions.

Rep. Solomons, Rep. Keffer, Sen. Davis and Rep. Turner have set an inspiring example of leadership. They are true heroes for Texas consumers."

Jay Doegey  
Chair, Cities Aggregation Power Project

*The Cities Aggregation Power Project is a political subdivision corporation and registered aggregator for its more than 100 member cities and utility districts, all of whom are located in the areas of Texas that are open to retail electric competition. CAPP's members are concerned about the effect of rising energy costs on their own budgets as commercial consumers, but are also troubled by the prospect that Texas's increasingly expensive electric rates may compel large energy consumers to locate their businesses in other states or countries, taking with them needed jobs, tax revenue, and the potential for further economic development. For more information, visit [www.capptx.com](http://www.capptx.com).*