

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
OF TEXAS

May 26, 2020

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Gov. Abbott,

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, members of Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Texas have provided help for their families, friends, and neighbors. Until we are free from this threat, we will continue to be the hands, feet, and voice for the sick and disabled, following our Lord's example.

We understand that there are many options for you to consider as you attempt to do what is best for Texans. Information is valuable and must be used to the advantage of all of us. CWA of Texas, however, values privacy and freedom, and these remain guarded by our United States and Texas constitutions, as you well know.

Contact tracing, carried to the extreme and subtlety of I-phone tracing, is beyond our comfort range. Certainly, it behooves every infected person to advise those whom he or she has exposed that they are now vulnerable to the illness. Personal responsibility has been the virtue that has made America and Texas great, and any effort to circumvent that powerful tool serves only to weaken our nation and state.

Therefore, we strongly urge you to use the \$294 million that you have allotted for "contact tracing" to be used in ways that do not provide for the constant surveillance of our citizens. That is unacceptable. Troops of "tracers" are unwelcome invaders, and we believe that programs such as these, only morph into more dictatorial controls of freedom-loving, responsible-acting, law-abiding patriots. We don't believe for one moment that this is your intention or purpose. However, history is replete with examples of these situations becoming the "norm" rather than the "exception" in future generations as precedence is established.

I will be most happy to bring some of our leaders to meet with you and/or your staff to talk about our concerns and help you understand what makes us comfortable and uncomfortable. You have a heavy burden, and you are constantly in our prayers.

In His service

Ann Hettinger
State Director