

The seal of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts is visible in the background. It features a central five-pointed star surrounded by a wreath of olive and oak branches. The words "THE COMPTROLLER" are written in a circular path around the top, and "TEXAS" is at the bottom.

Glenn Hegar

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Texas Property

Tax Law

Changes

as of

December 2021

Property Tax Bills: 87th Texas Legislature

This publication includes highlights of legislation relating to property tax passed during the 87th Regular Session and subsequent Called Sessions. Bills passed during Called Sessions are noted while bills passed during the regular session have no such notation. The highlights are general summaries and do not reflect the exact or complete text of the legislation highlighted. Not all legislation impacting property tax is addressed. Please be advised that this information is being provided solely as an informational resource. The information provided is not intended for use in lieu of, or as a substitute for, the legislation referenced herein and should not be relied upon as such. Additionally, the information provided neither constitutes nor serves as a substitute for legal advice. Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of any information included or referenced in this publication should, as appropriate or necessary, be directed to an attorney or other appropriate counsel.

*The Legislature enacted **HB 3530** which made nonsubstantive revisions of certain local laws concerning water and wastewater special districts. The Legislature also enacted laws impacting specific special districts that impose a property tax; these bills and **HB 3530** are not included in this publication.*

*Governor Greg Abbott vetoed **HB 1544** which would have provided that the eligibility of land for special open space appraisal does not end because the land ceases to be devoted principally to agricultural use if the landowner intends to resume the agricultural use of the land, the land is used for a sand mining operation, and the land is reclaimed according to the standard best practices.*

The following acronyms are used in this document:

2nd CS	Second Called Session
3rd CS	Third Called Session
HB	House Bill
HJR	House Joint Resolution
SB	Senate Bill
SJR	Senate Joint Resolution
TDLR	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
TEA	Texas Education Agency

The Property Tax Assistance Division at the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts provides property tax information and resources for taxpayers, local taxing entities, assessor-collectors, appraisal districts, and appraisal review boards.

For more information, visit our website comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax or call us toll-free at 1-800-252-9121 (press 2 to access the menu, then press 1 to contact the Information Services Team). In Austin, call (512) 305-9999.


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Tax Code

Chapter 5. State Administration

Section 5.03

SB 63 and HB 3786 add subsection (d) allowing the Comptroller, after giving notice, to send and require submission of documents, payments, notices, reports or other items electronically. The Comptroller may adopt rules to administer electronic submission and delivery, including rules specifying format.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 5.041

SB 63 and HB 3788 amend subsections (b) and (e-1) to allow distance training and education for an appraisal review board training course. The bills add subsection (i) to authorize the Comptroller to adopt rules implementing distance training and education, including establishing criteria for course availability and for demonstrating course completion.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021 (SB 63). Effective Jan. 1, 2022 (HB 3788).

Section 5.103

HB 988 amends subsection (d) to require an appraisal review board to incorporate model hearing procedures prepared by the Comptroller when adopting hearing procedures. An appraisal review board may adopt procedures that supplement the model hearing procedures, provided they do not contradict or circumvent the model hearing procedures.

The bill adds subsection (e) to require the Comptroller to review the hearing procedures adopted by each appraisal review board.

Effective June 15, 2021.

Section 5.104

HB 988 amends subsection (l) to require the Comptroller to include a summary of comments, complaints, and suggestions forwarded by taxpayer liaison officers, results of the Comptroller's review of appraisal review board hearing procedures, and results of requests for limited binding arbitration in the appraisal review board survey report.

Effective June 15, 2021.

Chapter 6. Local Administration

Section 6.03

HB 988 adds subsection (k-1) to require the governing body of a taxing unit entitled to cast at least five percent of the total votes to determine its vote for its appraisal district's board of directors by resolution adopted at the first or second open meeting held after the date the chief appraiser delivers the ballot in counties with a population of 120,000 or more. The governing body must submit its vote to the chief appraiser not later than the third day following the date the resolution is adopted.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to the selection of board of directors members to terms beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 6.035

SB 63 amends subsection (a-1) to provide that an individual is ineligible to serve on an appraisal district's board of directors if the individual served as a member of the board of directors for all or part of five terms, unless the individual was the county assessor-collector at the time the individual served as a board member or the appraisal district is established in a county with a population of less than 120,000.

The bill further modifies eligibility criteria for individuals who serve on the board of directors. Individuals who, in the preceding three years, appraised property or represented property owners for compensation during property tax proceedings in the appraisal district, or who were employed by the appraisal district, are ineligible to serve.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. Service as an appointed member of the board of directors before Jan. 1, 2022 does not count toward the five-term limit. Eligibility restrictions only apply to the appointment of board of director members to a term after the effective date of the act.

Section 6.052

HB 988 amends subsection (a) to require the taxpayer liaison officer receive and include complaints filed by the chief appraiser, a property owner, or a property owner's agent concerning certain matters in the list of comments and suggestions forwarded to the Comptroller. The bill codifies the current practice of the taxpayer liaison officer forwarding this list to the Comptroller not later than December 31 of each year. The bill makes conforming changes to subsection (b)

and (c) to include complaints. The bill adds subsection (g) to provide a taxpayer liaison officer does not commit an offense under this chapter if the officer communicates with the chief appraiser or another employee or agent of the appraisal district, a member of the appraisal review board, a member of the board of directors, a property tax consultant, a property owner, an agent of a property owner, or another person if the communication is made in good faith exercise of the officer's statutory duties.

Effective June 15, 2021.

HB 2941 makes conforming changes to subsection (f) by removing the reference to Tax Code Section 6.41(d-1) (county with a population of 120,000 or more) but continuing to require the taxpayer liaison officer to provide clerical assistance to the local administrative district judge in the selection of appraisal review board members. Tax Code Section 6.41(d-5) continues to require the appraisal district to provide whatever reasonable assistance is requested by the local administrative district judge.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Section 6.054

SB 63 adds subdivision (3) to prohibit an individual from being employed by an appraisal district if the individual has served as a member of the appraisal review board for the appraisal district at any time during the preceding two years.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a former member of an appraisal review board first employed by an appraisal district on or after the effective date.

Section 6.155

HB 988 adds this section to provide that a member of the governing body, officer, or employee of a taxing unit commits an offense if the person directly or indirectly communicates with the chief appraiser or another employee of the appraisal district in which the taxing unit participates for the purpose of influencing the value at which property in the district is appraised unless the person owns or leases the property that is the subject of the communication. An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 6.41

HB 2941 amends subsections (d), (d-1), (d-2), (d-3), and (e) to provide that appraisal review board members in all counties are appointed by the local administrative law judge. The bill amends subsection (f) to authorize the local administrative district judge or the judge's designee remove a member of the board, rather than removal by a majority vote of the appraisal district board of directors. The bill amends subsection (g) specifying that appraisal review board members of a consolidated board are appointed jointly by the local administrative district judges in the counties of the appraisal districts party to the contract. The bill strikes subsections (i) and (j) making certain ex parte communication restrictions applicable to all appraisal districts, instead of only those with a population of 120,000 or more.

Effective June 7, 2021. The changes in law to Tax Code Section 6.41, as amended by this bill apply only to the appointment of appraisal review board members to terms beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022, and does not affect the term of an appraisal review board member serving on Dec. 31, 2021, if the member was appointed before that date to a term that began before Dec. 31, 2021, and expires Dec. 31, 2022.

SB 63 amends subsection (f) to require the appraisal district board of directors, local administrative district judge, or judge's designee that appointed a member of the appraisal review board, as applicable, to remove the member or find by official action that the member's removal is not warranted not later than the 90th day after the date such an official learns of a potential ground for removal of the member.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a potential ground for removal of an appraisal review board member that an appraisal district board of directors, local administrative district judge, or local administrative district judge's designee, as applicable, first learns of on or after the effective date.

Section 6.412

HB 2941 makes conforming changes to subsection (d) by removing the reference to Tax Code Section 6.41(d-1) and instead specifically stating the eligibility restrictions for serving on the appraisal review board in that section apply for the appraisal review board of an appraisal district established for a county with a population of 120,000 or more if the person meets certain criteria.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Chapter 11. Taxable Property and Exemptions

Section 11.13

SB 1 (3rd CS) amends subsection (b) to increase the existing mandatory homestead exemption on school district property taxes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

Effective May 7, 2022, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (3rd CS), and applies beginning with the 2022 tax year.

Section 11.131

SB 794 amends subsection (b) to modify the eligibility for a total property tax exemption for the homestead of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran to a disabled veteran who has been awarded by (rather than receives from) the United States Department of Veterans Affairs 100 percent disability compensation.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 11.133

SB 611 amends the title of the section to “Residence Homestead of Surviving Spouse of Member of Armed Services Killed in Line of Duty.” The bill amends subsection (b) to provide that the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty (rather than killed in action) is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of the surviving spouse’s residence homestead if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the member of the armed services.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, contingent on voter approval of SJR 35, and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 11.145

SB 1449 amends the title of the section to “Income-Producing Tangible Personal Property Having Value of Less than \$2,500.” The bill amends subsection (a) to increase the taxable value below which tangible personal property held or used for the production of income is exempt from property taxation from \$500 to \$2,500.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 11.18

HB 115 amends subsection (p) to expand the existing property tax exemption for a charitable organization providing housing and related services to homeless individuals. The bill increases the required number of years to 20 that a charitable organization located in a county with a population of more than 1 million and less than 1.5 million (Travis) must be in existence to qualify for the exemption. It removes the requirement that the housing be located on a single campus, instead requiring the housing to be permanent and located on a tract of land at least 15 acres in size that was either owned by the organization on July 1, 2021 or acquired or donated and owned by the organization on Jan. 1, 2023. The bill adds a charitable organization that has been in existence for 2 years and is located in a city with a population of more than 100,000 and less than 150,000 part of which is located in a county with less than 5,000 (Midland) to qualify for the property tax exemption..

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 11.20

HB 1197 amends subsection (j) to extend the current property tax exemption for a tract of land owned for religious worship expansion purposes that is contiguous to the tract of land on which the religious organization’s place of regular worship is located from six years to ten years.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 11.211

HB 3610 adds this section to grant a property tax exemption on the portion of real property that is leased to an independent school district, community college district, or open-enrollment charter school. It includes a requirement that the property be used exclusively for the operation or administration of the school and be determined reasonably necessary for that purpose by the school’s governing body.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date. An amendment to the Texas Constitution, Article VIII, was not proposed or passed by the 87th Texas Legislature.

Section 11.252

HB 988 amends subsection (d) to modify the application form that the Comptroller is required to provide to claim a property tax exemption for motor vehicles leased for use other than production of income to allow a claimant certify either under oath or by written, unsworn declaration that the lessee does not hold the vehicle for the production of income.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 11.253

HB 988 adds subsections (l) and (m) to authorize a taxing unit in a declared disaster area to extend by official action the number of days to 270, that goods-in-transit may remain at a defined location before losing eligibility for the tax exemption. Subsections (l) and (m) are set to expire Dec. 31, 2025.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 11.26

SB 12 (2nd CS) adds subsections (a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10) to recalculate school district tax limitations (tax ceilings) on residence homesteads for individuals who are 65 or over or disabled to reflect reductions in school district maximum compressed tax rates for tax year 2019 and subsequent tax years. Each new subsection specifies certain calculations to reduce the tax ceiling based on the year the individual was first eligible to receive the limitation to account for tax rate reductions and ongoing tax rate compression passed by the 86th Legislature.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (2nd CS), and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 11.27

SB 63 amends subsection (a) and adds subsection (a-1) to clarify a person is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the appraised value of a solar or wind-powered energy device owned by the person regardless of whether the person owns the real property on which the device is installed or constructed.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and is a clarification of existing law and does not imply that existing law may be construed as inconsistent with the law as amended by this bill.

Section 11.35

SB 1427 amends subsections (a) and (g) to define damage as physical damage for purposes of qualifying for the temporary property tax exemption for property damaged by a disaster.

Effective June 6, 2021, and is a clarification of existing law and does not imply that existing law may be construed as inconsistent with the law as amended by this bill.

SB 1438 repeals subsections (c), (d), and (e) requiring the governing body to adopt the temporary exemption for property damaged by a disaster; thus, making it a mandatory exemption.

Effective June 16, 2021 and applies only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 11.42

SB 8 (2nd CS) adds subsection (f) to provide that an individual who acquires property after January 1 of a tax year may receive a residence homestead property tax exemption on the property for the applicable portion of the tax year which the individual qualified.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a residence homestead acquired on or after the effective date.

Section 11.43

SB 1438 amends subsection (s) to strike the provision requiring a person who qualifies for an exemption under Tax Code Section 11.35(c) to apply for the exemption not later than the 45th day after the date the governing body of the taxing unit adopts the exemption.

Effective June 16, 2021, and applies only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 11.431

SB 611 amends subsection (a) to provide an exception to the two year filing deadline for different veteran related homestead exemptions. The bill strikes language that the chief appraiser accept, approve or deny an application for residence homestead exemption under Tax Code Sections 11.131, 11.132 or 11.133, of a disabled veteran or surviving spouse, if the application is filed not later than two years after the delinquency date for the taxes on the property.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and apply only to an application for an exemption filed for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 11.439

SB 611 amends the title of the section to “Late Applications for Disabled Veterans Exemptions.” The bill amends subsection (a) to require a chief appraiser accept and approve or deny a late application for a homestead exemption for a disabled veteran under Tax Code Section 11.131 or 11.132, but not the surviving spouse of the disabled veteran, if the application is filed not later than five years (rather than two years) after the delinquency date for the taxes on the property.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and apply only to an application for an exemption filed for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 11.45

SB 63 amends subsections (a) and (b) to require the chief appraiser to act on an exemption application within 90 days after the later of the date the applicant first qualified or the date the applicant provides information necessary for the chief appraiser to determine the applicant’s right to the exemption. The bill would require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the applicant specifying additional information, if needed, within 30 days after the application is filed.

The bill amends subsection (d) to specify if the chief appraiser modifies or denies an application, the chief appraiser shall deliver a written notice of the modification or denial to the applicant not later than the fifth day after the date the chief appraiser makes the determination. The notice must state and fully explain each reason the chief appraiser modified or denied the application. The bill amends subsection (e) to require the chief appraiser state and fully explain each reason the chief appraiser modified or denied an application for an exemption under Tax Code Section 11.35, Temporary Exemption for Qualified Property Damaged by Disaster.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. Tax Code Sections 11.45(a) and (b), as amended, apply only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date. Tax Code Sections 11.45(d) and (e), as amended, apply only to a notice required to be delivered by a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 11.50

SB 1088 adds this section to authorize the chief appraiser of an appraisal district to request that a chief appraiser of another appraisal district provide a list of names of all individuals who receive a residence homestead exemption in the appraisal district for which the request is made. The bill requires the chief appraiser who receives the request to provide the list as soon as practicable and specifies that confidentiality does not apply the discloser of this information.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Chapter 21. Taxable Situs

Section 21.021

HB 988 amends subsections (a) and (b) to provide that, except as otherwise provided by Tax Code Section 21.031(b-2), a vessel or other watercraft used as an instrumentality of commerce, as defined by Tax Code Section 21.031, Allocation of Taxable Value of Vessels and Other Watercraft Used Outside This State, rather than in Tax Code Section 21.031(b), is taxable pursuant to Tax Code Section 21.02, Tangible Personal Property Generally.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to the allocation of the value and the determination of the situs of vessels and other watercraft for ad valorem tax purposes beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 21.031

HB 988 amends subsection (b) to require the appraisal office make the allocation of taxable value of vessels and other watercraft used outside this state as provided by added subsections (b-1), (b-2), and (b-3). The bill adds subsection (b-1) to create an exception under subsection (b-2) to the determination of the allocation fair market values of a vessel or other watercraft used as an instrumentality of commerce that is taxable in this state. New subsection (b-2) allows a property owner operating vessels or other watercraft as instrumentalities of commerce to request in writing for the appraisal district allocate the fair market value on a fleet wide basis and designate the location of the property owner’s principal place of business as the taxable situs of the fleet. Subsection (b-3) strikes existing text defining “special-purpose vessel or other watercraft not used as an instrumentality of commerce.” The bill adds subsection (i) to define “special-purpose vessel or other watercraft not used as an instrumentality of commerce”

and “vessel or other watercraft used as an instrumentality of commerce.”

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to the allocation of the value and the determination of the situs of vessels and other watercraft for ad valorem tax purposes beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Chapter 23. Appraisal Methods and Procedures

Section 23.013

HB 3971 amends subsection (e) to define “designated historic district” as an area that is zoned or otherwise designated as a historic district under municipal, state, or federal law. The bill requires a chief appraiser to consider the effect of any restriction placed by a historic district on a property owner’s ability to alter, improve, or repair the property in determining market value of residential real property located in a designated historic district.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies to the appraisal for property tax purposes of residential real property only for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 23.014

HB 2535 amends this section require a chief appraiser analyze the effect on value of any chicken coops or rabbit pens used for the noncommercial production of food for personal consumption and exclude that value in determining the market value of real property.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 23.121

HB 3514 amends subsection (h) to authorize, instead of requiring, a chief appraiser to report a dealer to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles if a dealer fails to file the required motor vehicle inventory declaration. The chief appraiser is required to include written verification that the chief appraiser informed the dealer of the requirement to file a declaration. The bill creates new subsection (h-1) for the existing requirement of a chief appraiser to report a dealer to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles to initiate cancellation of the dealer’s general distinguishing number when a dealer reports the sale of fewer than five motor vehicles in the prior year on the required declaration. The chief appraiser is still required to include a copy of the declaration in the report to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and that report is

still prima facie grounds for the cancellation of the dealer’s general distinguishing number under Transportation Code Section 503.038(a)(9).

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 23.21

SB 113 amends subsection (c) to require a chief appraiser to use the income method of appraisal in appraising land that is leased by a community land trust as specified regardless of whether the chief appraiser considers that method to be the most appropriate method for appraising the property. In appraising the property, the chief appraiser would be required to:

- consider the uses and limitations applicable to the property for purposes of computing the actual rental income from the property and projecting future rental income; and
- use the same capitalization rate that the chief appraiser uses to appraise other rent-restricted properties.

The bill strikes the provision requiring the chief appraiser to consider the extent to which the use and limitation reduce the property’s market value.

The bill adds subsection (c-1) to require the chief appraiser, in appraising a housing unit that is leased by a community land trust, as specified, to use the income method of appraisal as described by Tax Code Section 23.012 to determine the appraised value of the property regardless of whether the chief appraiser considers that method to be the most appropriate method of appraising the property. The bill requires the chief appraiser, in appraising the property, to:

- consider the uses and limitations applicable to the property, including the terms of the lease applicable to the property, for purposes of computing the actual rental income from the property and projecting future rental income; and
- use the same capitalization rate that the chief appraiser uses to appraise other rent-restricted properties.

The bill amends subsection (d) to prohibit a chief appraiser from appraising a housing unit owned by a community land trust at a value greater than the price for which it could be sold under an eligible land use restriction in that tax year. The use restriction would have to be recorded in real property deeds, have a term of at least 40 years, restrict the sales

price to at or below market value, and restrict the sale to low income families.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to property taxes imposed for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 23.215

HB 3833 amends subsection (a) concerning conditions under which the provisions regarding appraisal of certain non-exempt real property used for low-income or moderate-income housing would apply. The bill would:

- strike the requirement that the low-income housing be rented to a low-income or moderate income individual or family satisfying certain low-income housing organizations' income eligibility requirements on the effective date of Tax Code Section 23.215 and instead require that the property be held for the purpose of renting the property to such an individual or family; and
- add a requirement that the low-income housing be subject to a land use restriction agreement under a specified low-income housing tax credit program that has not expired or been terminated.

The bill amends subsection (b) to require a chief appraiser to appraise specified low-income housing property that is under construction or that has not reached stabilized occupancy on January 1 of the tax year in which the property is appraised by using a specified income method including:

- (1) using the property's projected income and expenses for the first full year of operation established and utilized in a specified underwriting report;
- (2) adjusting, as specified, the gross income potential and operating costs for the percentage completed on January 1; and
- (3) adjusting the income and expenses in the underwriting report for actual occupancy for completed properties that have not reached stabilized occupancy on January 1.

The bill amends subsection (c) to require the chief appraiser to determine the appraised value of the property in the manner provided by Tax Code Section 11.1825(q) for the first tax year following the completion of construction and stabilized occupancy.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies only to a property tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 23.23

SB 8 (2nd CS) adds subsection (c-1) to provide an owner who receives a partial year homestead exemption is considered to have qualified the property for the exemption as of January 1 of the tax year following the tax year in which the owner acquired the property for the purpose of when the limitation on appraised value begins.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a residence homestead acquired on or after the effective date.

Section 23.44

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to provide the deadline the chief appraiser is required to determine each claimant's right to the agricultural designation is as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after the later of the date the claimant is first eligible for the agricultural designation or the date the claimant provides to the chief appraiser the information necessary for the chief appraiser to determine the claimant's right to the agricultural designation. The bill amends subsection (b) to require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the claimant as soon as practicable but within 30 days after the application is filed if additional information is needed. The bill requires that the chief appraiser send written notice if the application is denied and the chief appraiser must state and fully explain each reason the application was denied.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 23.46

SB 725 adds subsection (e-1) to provide that a portion of a parcel of land is not diverted to nonagricultural use because it is subject to a right-of-way that is less than 200 feet wide and that was taken by condemnation if the remainder of the land qualifies. The bill adds subsection (g) to specify that if the additional taxes are due because the land has been diverted to a nonagricultural use as a result of a condemnation, the additional taxes and interest are the personal obligation of the condemning entity and not the property owner from whom the property was taken.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. Tax Code Section 23.46(e-1), as added by this bill applies only to the appraisal of land for property tax purposes for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date. Tax Code Section 23.46(g), as added by this bill applies only to a change of use of land that occurs on or after the effective date.

Section 23.55

HB 3833 amends subsections (a), (b), (e), (f), (m), and (n) to remove the requirement for interest imposed on a taxpayer when there is a change of use under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter D, Appraisal of Agricultural Land.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies only to a change of use of land appraised under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter D that occurs on or after the effective date.

Section 23.57

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to provide the deadline the chief appraiser is required to determine each applicant's right to have land appraised under Subchapter D is as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after the later of the date the applicant's land is first eligible for the designation or the date the applicant provides to the chief appraiser the information necessary to determine the applicant's right to special appraisal.. The bill amends subsection (b) to require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the applicant as soon as practicable but within 30 days after the application is filed if additional information is needed. The bill requires that the chief appraiser send written notice if the application is denied and the chief appraiser must state and fully explain each reason the application was denied.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 23.58

HB 3833 amends subsections (c) and (d) to strike interest from provision regarding loans secured by lien on open-spaced land.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies only to a loan secured by a lien on open-space land that is contracted for on or after the effective date.

Section 23.76

HB 3833 amends subsections (a), (b), and (e) to remove the requirement for interest imposed on a taxpayer when there is a change of use under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter E, Appraisal of Timberland.

Effective June 15, 2021, an applies only to a change of use of land appraised under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter E that occurs on or after the effective date.

Section 23.79

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to provide the deadline the chief appraiser is required to determine each applicant's right to have land appraised under Subchapter E is as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after the later of the date the applicant's land is first eligible for the designation or the date the applicant provides to the chief appraiser the information necessary to determine the applicant's right to special appraisal.. The bill amends subsection (b) to require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the applicant as soon as practicable but within 30 days after the application is filed if additional information is needed. The bill requires that the chief appraiser send written notice if the application is denied and the chief appraiser must state and fully explain each reason the application was denied.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 23.85

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to provide the deadline the chief appraiser is required to determine each applicant's right to have land appraised under Subchapter F is as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after the later of the date the applicant's land is first eligible for the designation or the date the applicant provides to the chief appraiser the information necessary to determine the applicant's right to special appraisal. The bill amends subsection (b) to require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the applicant as soon as practicable but within 30 days after the application is filed if additional information is needed. The bill requires that the chief appraiser send written notice if the application is denied and the chief appraiser must state and fully explain each reason the application was denied.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 23.86

HB 3833 amends subsection (a) to decrease the rollback period from five years to three years and to remove the requirement for interest imposed on a taxpayer when there is a change of use under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter F, Appraisal of Recreational, Park, and Scenic Land. The bill amends subsection (b) to provide that a tax lien attaches to the land on the date the change of use occurs or the deed restriction expires to secure payment of the additional tax

and any penalties and interest incurred if the tax becomes delinquent.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies only to a change of use of land appraised under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter F that occurs on or after the effective date.

Section 23.95

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to provide the deadline the chief appraiser is required to determine each applicant's right to have land appraised under Subchapter G is as soon as practicable, but not later than the 90th day after the later of the date the applicant's land is first eligible for the designation or the date the applicant provides to the chief appraiser the information necessary to determine the applicant's right to special appraisal. The bill amends subsection (b) to require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the applicant as soon as practicable but within 30 days after the application is filed if additional information is needed. The bill requires that the chief appraiser send written notice if the application is denied and the chief appraiser must state and fully explain each reason the application was denied.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 23.96

HB 3833 amends subsection (a) to decrease the rollback period from five years to three years and to remove the requirement for interest imposed on a taxpayer when there is a change of use under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter G, Appraisal of Public Access Airport Property. The bill amends subsection (b) to provide that a tax lien attaches to the property on the date the deed restriction expires to secure payment of the additional tax imposed and any penalties and interest incurred if the tax becomes delinquent.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies only to a change of use of land appraised under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter G that occurs on or after the effective date.

Section 23.9805

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to provide the deadline the chief appraiser is required to determine each applicant's right to have land appraised under Subchapter H is as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after the later of the date the applicant's land is first eligible for the designation or the date the applicant provides to the chief appraiser the

information necessary to determine the applicant's right to special appraisal. The bill amends subsection (b) to require the chief appraiser deliver a written notice to the applicant as soon as practicable but within 30 days after the application is filed if additional information is needed. The bill requires that the chief appraiser send written notice if the application is denied and the chief appraiser must state and fully explain each reason the application was denied.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an application filed with a chief appraiser on or after the effective date.

Section 23.9807

HB 3833 amends subsections (a) and (b) to decrease the rollback period from five years to three years and to remove the requirement for interest imposed on a taxpayer when there is a change of use under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter H, Appraisal of Restricted-Use Timber Land. The bill amends subsection (c) to provide that a tax lien attaches to the land on the date the change of use occurs to secure payment of the additional tax and any penalties and interest incurred if the tax becomes delinquent.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies only to a change of use of land appraised under Tax Code Chapter 23, Subchapter H that occurs on or after the effective date.

Chapter 25. Local Appraisal

Section 25.02

HB 988 adds subsections (c) to require that each appraisal record have a unique account number and if an appraisal district changes the account number of an appraisal record, the appraisal district must provide written notice of the change to the property owner as soon as practicable after the change and provide notice of the change in the next notice of appraised value of the property.

The bill adds subsection (d), which does not apply to an appraisal record for a residential property, for an improvement only or for a property on which a delinquent tax is due to require the chief appraiser, at the written request of a property owner, to combine contiguous parcels or tracts of real property into a single appraisal record and separate identifiable segments of the owner's parcel or tract of real property into individual appraisal records.

The bill adds subsection (e) to require a property owner to make this request before January 1 of the tax year for which

the requested change to the appraisal records is to be made and the request must contain a legal description as contained in a deed sufficient to describe the property subject to the request.

The bill adds subsection (f) to authorize an appraisal review board to order the requested change on a motion filed by the property owner under Tax Code Section 25.25, Correction of Appraisal Roll, or a protest filed under Tax Code Chapter 41, Local Review, if a chief appraiser refuses to combine parcels or tracts or separate a parcel or tract.

The bill adds subsection (g) to provide that combining contiguous parcels or tracts of real property into a single appraisal record or the separation of identifiable segments of a parcel or tract of real property into individual appraisal records does not affect the application of generally accepted appraisal methods and techniques to the appraisal of real property associated with those appraisal records.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 25.025

HB 1082, HB 3607, SB 56, SB 841, SB 1134 reenact and amend subsection (a) as amended by Chapters 467 (H.B. 4170), 469 (H.B. 4173), 633 (S.B. 1494), 1213 (S.B. 662), and 1245 (H.B. 2446), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 to renumber and add the following individuals to whom provisions relating to confidentiality of certain home address information apply:

- an elected public officer (**HB 1082**);
- a current or former United States attorney, assistant United States attorney, federal public defender, deputy federal public defender, or assistant federal public defender and the spouse and child of the attorney or public defender (**SB 56**);
- a current or honorably retired county jailer as defined by Occupations Code Section 1701.001; (**SB 841**)
- a current or honorably retired police officer or inspector of the United States Federal Protective Service; (**SB 841**)
- a federal judge, a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a state judge, or a family member of a federal judge, a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, or a state judge; (**SB 1134**)

SB 841 subsection (a-1) by adding Subdivision (1-a) to provide “Honorably retired” means, with respect to a position, an individual who:

- (A) previously served but is not currently serving in the position;
- (B) did not retire in lieu of any disciplinary action;
- (C) was eligible to retire from the position or was ineligible to retire only as a result of an injury received in the course of the individual’s employment in the position; and
- (D) is eligible to receive a pension or annuity for service in the position or is ineligible to receive a pension or annuity only because the entity that employed the individual does not offer a pension or annuity to its employees.

SB 1134 amends subsection (a-1) to provide “family member” has the meaning assigned by Finance Code Section 31.006.

*Effective May 19, 2021, the changes in law made by **HB 1082** apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date, and to the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.*

*Effective June 14, 2021, the changes in law made by **SB 56** and **SB 841** apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date, and to the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.*

*Effective Sept. 1, 2021, (**SB 1134; HB 3607**).*

Section 25.07

SB 1315 adds subsection (d) to define property used as an aid or facility incidental to or useful in the operation or development of a port or waterway or in aid of navigation-related commerce for the purposes of a leasehold or other possessory interest in as exempt property that could not be listed in the appraisal records as taxable property if the property:

- (1) is leased to a person:
 - (A) engaged in the business of navigation-related commerce; or
 - (B) for a purpose described by Water Code Section 60.101, 61.162, or 63.153, or for the placement on the property of an improvement described by those sections;
- (2) is located:
 - (A) adjacent to a federal navigation project; or
 - (B) in a foreign trade zone established and operated under federal law; or
- (3) includes part of a rail facility that serves the tenants and users of the port or waterway.

The bill adds subsection (e) to provide “navigation-related commerce” includes the following if engaged in by a person:

- (1) an activity that requires the person to hold a maritime-related license or permit issued by a navigation district, including providing stevedoring, steamship agency, towing, tugboat or line handling services;
- (2) an activity that requires the person to hold a franchise issued by a navigation district;
- (3) possessing a leasehold interest in property owned by a navigation district that connects infrastructure to a public dock;
- (4) hauling cargo into or across a public dock;
- (5) commercial fishing;
- (6) constructing, fabricating, cleaning, repairing, dismantling or recycling vessels;
- (7) pilotage; or
- (8) an activity described by Water Code Section 60.101, 61.162 or 63.153.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to the taxation of property for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 25.19

HB 988 amends subsection (b) to require that the notice of appraised value include an explanation of the availability and purpose of an informal conference with the appraisal office before a protest hearing.

The bill adds subsection (m) to prohibit a chief appraiser from delivering a corrected or amended notice of appraised value later than June 1 for property which a person files a rendition statement or property report as required by Chapter 22 unless

the purpose of the notice is to include omitted property or to correct a clerical error.

The bill adds subsection (n) to require the chief appraiser, as soon as practicable after delivering a notice of appraised value, to post the notice on the appraisal district’s website, if the appraisal district maintains one, as part of the appraisal record pertaining to the property.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a notice of appraised value for a tax year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

HB 2723 adds subsection (m) to stipulate that a notice of appraised value include the following verbatim statement: “Beginning August 7th, visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information regarding the amount of taxes that each entity that taxes your property will impose if the entity adopts its proposed tax rate. Your local property tax database will be updated regularly during August and September as local elected officials propose and adopt the property tax rates that will determine how much you pay in property taxes.”

The bill adds subsection (n) to require the chief appraiser, as soon as practicable after delivering a notice of appraised value, to post the notice on the appraisal district’s website, if the appraisal district maintains one, as part of the appraisal record pertaining to the property.

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 25.193

SB 63 amends subsection (b) to strike language specifying property.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 25.21

HB 1090 amends subsection (a) to require the chief appraiser, if the chief appraiser discovers that real property was omitted from an appraisal roll in any one of the three preceding tax years (rather than five preceding years), or that personal property was omitted from an appraisal roll in one of the two preceding tax years (rather than two preceding years), to appraise the property as of January 1 of each tax year that it

was omitted and enter the property and its appraised value in the appraisal records.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 25.25

SB 63 amends subsection (d) to require an appraisal review board schedule a protest hearing on an error motion to correct the appraisal roll as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after board approves the appraisal records as provided by Tax Code Section 41.12 (Approval of Appraisal Records by Board) for a hearing request made on or after January 1 but before September 1. If a request for hearing is made on or after September 1 but before January 1 of the following tax year, the appraisal review board is required to schedule the hearing as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after the date the request for the hearing is made.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a motion to correct an appraisal roll filed on or after the effective date.

SB 1421 adds subsection (c-1) to permit an appraisal review board, on motion of a property owner or chief appraiser, to direct by written order changes in the appraisal roll or related records for the current tax year and for either of the two preceding tax years to correct an inaccuracy in the appraised value of the owner's tangible personal property that is the result of an error or omission in a rendition statement or property report filed under Tax Code Chapter 22 regarding renditions and other reports, for the applicable tax year. The roll may not be changed under this subsection for any tax year in which:

- the property owner failed to timely file the required rendition statement or property report and was assessed a penalty;
- the property was the subject of a protest brought by the property owner, a hearing on the protest was conducted in which the owner offered evidence or argument, and the appraisal review board made a determination of the protest on the merits;
- the property was the subject of a previous motion filed by the property owner under this section and the chief appraiser and the owner agreed to the correction, the appraisal review board determined the motion or the appraisal review board determined that the owner forfeited the right to a final determination of the motion for failing to comply with the prepayment requirements; or

- the appraised value of the property was established because of a written agreement between the property owner or the owner's agent and the appraisal district.

The bill amends subsection (e) to provide that a party bringing a motion under subsection (c-1), if the chief appraiser and the property owner do not agree to the correction before the 15th day after the date the motion is filed, is entitled on request to a hearing on and a determination of the motion by the appraisal review board. The bill amends subsection (m) to require that a hearing under subsection (c-1), be conducted in the manner provided by Tax Code Chapter 41, Subchapter C, Taxpayer Protest.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a motion to correct an appraisal roll filed on or after the effective date.

Chapter 26. Assessment

Section 26.012

HB 1869 amends subdivision (7) to add "debt" must meet one of the following requirements:

- has been approved at an election;
- includes self-supporting debt;
- evidences a loan under a state or federal financial assistance program;
- is issued for designated infrastructure;
- is a refunding bond;
- is issued in response to an emergency under Government Code Section 1431.015 (Certain Notes or Other Obligations for Emergency Financing);
- is issued for renovating, improving, or equipping existing buildings or facilities;
- is issued for vehicles or equipment; or
- is issued for a project under Tax Code Chapter 311 (Tax Increment Financing Act) or Transportation Code Chapter 222 (Funding and Federal Aid) that is located in a reinvestment zone created under one of those chapters.

The bill adds subdivision (9) to define "designated infrastructure" to mean infrastructure, including a facility, equipment, rights-of-way, or land, for specific purposes. The bill adds subsection (18-a) to define "refunding bond" as a bond or other obligation issued for refunding or refinancing purposes under Government Code Chapter 1207 or 1371. Added subsection (18-b) defines "self-supporting debt" as the portion of

a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness described by Subdivision (7)(A)(i) designated by the governing body of a political subdivision as being repaid from a source other than property taxes.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness for which the ordinance, order, or resolution authorizing the issuance is adopted by the governing body of a taxing unit on or after the effective date, unless the taxing unit entered into a binding agreement that contemplated the issuance of such debt before the effective date.

Section 26.04

SB 1438 repeals subsection (c-1) relating to the calculation of a tax rate in a disaster area. See new Tax Code Section 26.042, Calculation and Adoption of Certain Tax Rates in Disaster Area.

Effective June 16, 2021.

HB 2723 amends subsection (e-2) to require that the post-card notice include the following statement: “VisitTexas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information regarding the amount of taxes that each entity that taxes your property will impose if the entity adopts its proposed tax rate. Your local property tax database will be updated regularly during August and September as local elected officials propose and adopt the property tax rates that will determine how much you pay in property taxes.” The bill strikes provision requiring that the notice include a statement directing the property owner to an Internet website.

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 26.041

SB 1438 repeals subsection (c-1) relating to the calculation of a tax rate in a disaster area. See new Tax Code Section 26.042, Calculation and Adoption of Certain Tax Rates in Disaster Area.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 26.042

SB 1438 adds this section to allow the calculation and adoption of certain tax rates in a disaster area. New subsection (a) allows a taxing unit other than a school district or a special taxing unit to calculate the voter-approval tax rate in the manner provided for a special taxing unit if it is located in an area declared a disaster by the Governor or President of the United States during the current tax year and at least one person is granted a temporary disaster exemption under Tax Code Section 11.35 for property located in the taxing unit. A taxing unit may continue this calculation until the earlier of the first tax year in which the total taxable value exceeds that of January 1 of the year in which the disaster occurred or the third year after the disaster occurred. New subsection (b) requires the taxing unit to reduce its voter-approval tax rate by the taxing unit’s emergency revenue rate following the end of the disaster tax rate calculation period and details the calculation of the emergency revenue rate. Subsection (c) defines the adjusted voter-approval tax rate used within the calculation of the emergency revenue rate.

New subsection (d) provides that when increased expenditure of money by a taxing unit other than a school district is necessary to respond to a disaster, including a tornado, hurricane, flood, wildfire, or other calamity, but not including a drought, epidemic, or pandemic, that has impacted the taxing unit and the Governor has requested federal disaster assistance, an election is not required under Section 26.07, Automatic Election to Approve Tax Rate of Taxing Unit Other Than School District, to approve the tax rate adopted by the governing body for the year following the year in which the disaster occurs.

New subsection (e) provides that when increased expenditure of money by a school district is necessary to respond to a disaster, including a tornado, hurricane, flood, wildfire, or other calamity, but not including a drought, epidemic, or pandemic, that has impacted the school district and the Governor has requested federal disaster assistance, an election is not required under Tax Code Section 26.08, Automatic Election to Approve Tax Rate of School District, to approve the tax rate adopted by the governing body of the school district for the year following the year in which the disaster occurs.

New subsection (f) provides that a taxing unit that exceeds its voter-approval tax rate without an election under subsections (d) and (e) may not consider the amount by which the rate was

increased when calculating its voter-approval tax rate in the following year.

New subsection (g) requires a taxing unit to specify the disaster declaration that is the basis of the disaster tax rate calculation and prohibits a taxing unit from using the same disaster declaration as justification for a new disaster tax rate calculation in a subsequent tax year.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 26.0442

HB 295 amends subsection (a) to change the definition of “indigent defense compensation expenditures” to include the operation of a public defender’s office under Article 26.044, Code of Criminal Procedure, in the tax rate adjustment for county indigent defense compensation.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies to the calculation of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for a county only for a tax year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 26.0444

HB 1900 adds this section to define “defunding municipality” and “municipal public safety expenditure adjustment.” Added subsection (b) provides that the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for a defunding municipality is decreased by the rate computed as:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Municipal Public Safety Expenditure Adjustment} \\ \text{-----divided by-----} \\ \text{(Current Total Value – New Property Value)} \end{array}$$

Subsection (c) requires a defunding municipality to provide a notice of the decrease in the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate in the information published under Tax Code Section 26.04(e) and, as applicable, in the notice prescribed by Tax Code Section 26.06 or 26.061. The bill provides certain exceptions calculating the municipal public safety expenditure adjustment.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies beginning with the 2021 tax year, except that Tax Code Section 26.0444(c), as added by this bill, does not apply for the 2021 tax year.

Section 26.0501

HB 1900 adds this section to prohibit the governing body of a defunding municipality, notwithstanding any other provision of Tax Code Chapter 26 or other law, from adopting a

tax rate for the current tax year that exceeds the lesser of the defunding municipality’s no-new-revenue tax rate or voter-approval tax rate for that tax year.

Added subsection (b-1) provides the governing body of the defunding municipality, notwithstanding subsection (b), if a municipality is determined to be a defunding municipality according to the budget adopted by the municipality for the first fiscal year beginning on or after Sept. 1, 2021, from adopting a tax rate for the current year that exceeds the least of the defunding municipality’s no-new-revenue tax rate or voter-approval tax rate for that tax year, the preceding tax year, or the second preceding tax year. The bill provides that this subsection expires Sept. 1, 2023.

Subsection (c) provides that, for purposes of making the calculation required under Tax Code Section 26.013 (Unused Increment Rate), in a tax year in which a municipality is a defunding municipality, the difference between the municipality’s actual tax rate and voter-approval tax rate is considered to be zero.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies beginning with the 2021 tax year.

Section 26.052

HB 2723 adds subsection (e-1) to require that the notice provided under subsection (c) include the following statement: “VisitTexas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.”

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 26.06

HB 2723 amends subsections (b-1), (b-2), and (b-3) to add to the prescribed language for hearing notices the statement: “VisitTexas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.”

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 26.061

HB 2723 amends subsection (b) to add to the prescribed language for the meeting notice the statement: “VisitTexas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.”

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 26.063

HB 2429 adds subsection (d) to provide that this subsection applies only to a taxing unit that is not required to hold an election under Tax Code Section 26.07 and for which the qualified voters of the taxing unit may not petition to hold an election under Tax Code Section 26.075. In the notice required to be provided by the taxing unit under Tax Code Section 26.06(b-1) or (b-3), as applicable, the taxing unit shall add prescribed language to the end of the list of rates included in the notice. The prescribed language lists the de minimis rate, provides a substitute definition of “voter-approval tax rate,” adds a definition of “de minimis rate,” and substitutes language regarding the notice that an election is required to include the proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. If the taxing unit adopts the proposed tax rate, the taxing unit is not required to hold an election and the qualified voters of the taxing unit may not petition to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate.

Effective May 15, 2021, and applies only to a tax rate notice that is provided by a taxing unit on or after the effective date.

Sections 26.07

SB 1438 amends subsection(b) to strike existing language regarding increased expenditure for a disaster which was added to new Tax Code Section 26.042(d).

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 26.08

SB 1438 repeals subsection (a-1) relating to the calculation of a tax rate in a disaster area which was added to new Tax Code Section 26.042(e).

Effective June 16, 2021.

HB 3607 repeals subsection (n-1) as executed.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 26.10

SB 113 amends subsection (a) to provide that, if the appraisal roll shows that a property is eligible for taxation for only part of a year because an exemption, other than a residence homestead exemption or an exemption described by Subsection (d), applicable on January 1 of that year terminated during the year, the tax due against the property is calculated by using a certain formula. The bill adds subsection (d) to provide an exception for land received by an organization under Tax Code Sections 11.181, 11.182, or 11.1825 that terminated during the year because of the sale by the organization of a housing unit located on the land if:

- the housing unit is sold to a family meeting the income-eligibility standards established by Local Government Code Section 373B.006;
- the organization retains title to the land on which the housing unit is located; and
- before the date on which the housing unit is sold, the organization is designated a community land trust by the governing body of a municipality or county as provided by Local Government Code Section 373B.002.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to property taxes imposed for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 26.1115

SB 8 (2nd CS) adds this section, “Calculation of Taxes on Residence Homestead Generally,” to provide if an individual receives a homestead exemption under Tax Code Section 11.13 as provided by Tax Code Section 11.42(f), for a portion of a tax year, the tax exemption would be prorated based on the portion of the year the owner qualified for the exemption on that homestead. The bill also requires the taxes be prorated should the exemptions terminate during the year in which the individual acquires the property. The bill specifies calculations for prorating the amount of taxes due depending on when the individual first qualified. The bill would require the assessor for each taxing unit take certain actions depending on the timing of the homestead exemption qualification and when taxes are calculated, tax bills mailed and paid.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a residence homestead acquired on or after the effective date.

Section 26.175

HB 2723 adds this section to require the Department of Information Resources (DIR) develop and maintain an easily accessible Internet website that lists each property tax database and includes a method to assist a property owner to identify the appropriate property tax database for the owner's property. The bill requires that the Internet website provide a separate link to the Internet location of each property tax database and the address of the Internet website be "Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes."

Effective June 3, 2021, and DIR shall develop the required internet website not later than Jan. 1, 2022.

Chapter 31. Collections

Section 31.032

SB 742 amends the title of this section to "Installment Payments of Taxes on Property in Disaster Area or Emergency Area that has been Damaged as a Result of Disaster or Emergency." The bill amends subsection (a) to expand an installment payment option for taxes on property located in an emergency or damaged as a direct result of the emergency. The bill amends subsection (g) to define "Emergency" as a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor under Government Code Section 433.001. The bill defines "Emergency area" to mean an area designated by the Governor to be affected by an emergency under Government Code Section 433.001.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Section 31.033

SB 742 adds this section titled "Installment Payments of Taxes on Property in Disaster Area or Emergency Area That Has Not Been Damaged as a Result of Disaster or Emergency." The bill defines "disaster," "disaster area," "emergency," and "emergency area" to have the meanings assigned by Tax Code Section 31.032(g). The bill provides that this section applies only to:

- real property that:
 - is owned or leased by a business entity that had not more than the amount calculated as provided by Tax Code Section 31.032(h) (relating to a certain limit on gross receipts) in gross receipts in the entity's most recent federal tax year or state franchise tax annual period, according to

- the applicable federal income tax return or state franchise tax report of the entity;
 - is located in a disaster area or emergency area; and
 - has not been damaged as a direct result of the disaster or emergency;
- tangible personal property that is owned or leased by a business entity described by Subdivision (1)(A); and
 - taxes that are imposed on the property by a taxing unit before the first anniversary of the disaster or emergency.

The bill authorizes the governing body of a taxing unit to authorize a person to pay property taxes in four equal installments on real and tangible personal property not damaged by a disaster if it is located in a disaster area or emergency area and owned or leased by a business entity with annual gross receipts under a specified threshold. The Comptroller shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Section 31.06

SB 1764 amends subsection (a) to provide an exception to the requirement of a tax collector to accept United States currency or a check or money order in payment of taxes and to accept payment by credit card or electronic funds transfer. The bill adds subsection (e) to authorize a collector to adopt a written policy that requires payment of delinquent taxes, penalties, interest, and costs and expenses recoverable under Tax Code Section 33.48 only with United States currency, a cashier's check, a certified check, or an electronic funds transfer if the payment relates to personal property seized under Tax Code Chapter 33, Subchapter B, Seizure of Personal Property; property subject to an order of sale under Tax Code Chapter 33, Subchapter C, Delinquent Tax Suits; or real property seized under Tax Code Chapter 33, Subchapter E, Seizure of Real Property.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 31.11

HB 988 amends subsection (h) to provide that Tax Code Section 31.11, Refunds of Overpayments or Erroneous Payments, does not apply to an overpayment caused by a change of exemption status or correction of a tax roll, including an overpayment received after a correction of a tax roll as a result of an appeal under Tax Code Chapter 42.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Chapter 33. Delinquency

Section 33.06

HB 3629 amends subsection (b) to prohibit a taxing unit from filing suit to collect delinquent taxes on a property and the property is prohibited from being sold at a sale to foreclose the tax lien until the 181st day after the date the collector for the taxing unit delivers a notice of delinquency of the taxes following the date the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead, rather than the 181st day after the date the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead. The bill amends subsection (c) to require the court abate a suit until the 181st day after the date the collector for the taxing unit delivers a notice of delinquency of the taxes following the date the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead, rather than the 181st day after the date the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead. Subsection (c-1) is amended to prohibit property from being sold at a tax sale until the 181st day after the date the collector for the taxing unit delivers a notice of delinquency of the taxes following the date the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead, rather than the 181st day after the date the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead. The bill amends subsection (f) to provide that if an individual qualifies for a deferral or abatement of collection of taxes on property provided by this section dies, notwithstanding the other provisions, the deferral or abatement continues in effect until the 181st day after the date the collector for the taxing unit delivers a notice of delinquency of the taxes following the date the surviving spouse of the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead under certain circumstances, rather than the 181st day after the date the surviving spouse of the individual no longer owns and occupies the property as a residence homestead under certain circumstances.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 33.08

SB 742 amends subsection (b) to provide that taxes that become delinquent on or after June 1 under Tax Code Section 31.033 incur an additional penalty to defray collection costs if provided by the governing body of a taxing unit or appraisal district.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Section 33.25

HB 533 amends subsections (a) and (b) to remove the county population limitation for counties that may have someone other than a peace officer advertise and conduct personal property auction tax sales, including online bidding and sale.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021 and applies only to an ad valorem tax sale of personal property seized under a tax warrant issued on or after the effective date.

Chapter 41. Local Review

Section 41.01

HB 988 adds subsections (c), (d) and (e) to require an appraisal review board adopt hearing procedures by rule. Before adopting the hearing procedures, the board must hold a public hearing not later than May 15 to consider the hearing procedures proposed for adoption. The bill requires the appraisal review board to comply with Tax Code Section 5.103(d) when adopting hearing procedures and provides that the chairman is responsible for the administration of hearing procedures. The appraisal review board must distribute copies of the hearing procedures to the appraisal district board of directors, the appraisal district's taxpayer liaison officer and the Comptroller not later than the 15th day after the date the hearing procedures are adopted. The adopted hearing procedures must be posted in a prominent place in each room in which hearings are conducted and on the appraisal district's website if the appraisal district maintains one.

Effective June 15, 2021.

Section 41.413

SB 1088 and SB 1421 amend subsections (d) and (e) to clarify that lessees of real property contractually obligated to reimburse the property owner for taxes are entitled to receive notice of appraised value.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a notice of appraised value received by a property owner on or after the effective date.

Section 41.44

HB 988 amends subsection (d) to require a notice of protest form to permit a property owner to request that the protest be heard by a single-member panel authorized by Tax Code Section 41.45(b-4).

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

SB 63 amends subsection (d) to require a notice of protest form permit a property owner who believes that the owner's property was appraised at a value that exceeds its appraised value, was appraised unequally, or both, to select a single box to indicate that the owner is filing a protest for either or both reasons if the form includes boxes a property owner is required to select to indicate the reason for filing a protest.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 41.445

HB 988 adds this section to require the appraisal office hold an informal conference with each property owner who files a notice of protest with the appraisal review board and requests an informal conference. An informal conference must be held before the hearing on the protest.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022 and applies only to a protest under Tax Code Chapter 41 for which a notice of protest is filed by a property owner on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 41.45

SB 63 amends subsection (a) to require an appraisal review board to schedule a protest hearing to be held as soon as practicable but not later than the 90th day after approval of the appraisal records.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a protest for which the notice of protest was filed on or after the effective date.

HB 988 amends subsection (b-1) to strike the provision requiring an appraisal review board conduct a hearing on a protest by telephone conference call if the appraisal review board proposes that the hearing be conducted by telephone conference call. The bill adds subsections (b-4) and (b-5) to require a protest be heard by a single-member panel on request of the property owner and to provide that if the recommendation of a single-member panel is not accepted by the board, the board may refer the matter for rehearing to a different single-member panel or the board may determine the protest. The bill amends subsections (d), (d-2), and (d-3) to provide that subsection (d) does not apply to a single-member panel established under subsection (b-4) of this section. The bill requires the appraisal review board make a determination of a protest heard by a single-member panel and to deliver notice of a hearing or meeting to determine a protest heard by a single-member panel, or to rehear a protest.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a protest under Tax Code Chapter 41 for which a notice of protest is filed by a property owner on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

SB 1919 amends subsections (b), (b-1), (b-2), (b-3), and (n) to allow a property owner to appear at appraisal review board hearings by videoconference. The bill adds subsection (b-4) to provide that an appraisal review board established for a county with a population of less than 100,000 and that lacks the technological capability to conduct a videoconference is not required to conduct a hearing by videoconference.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a protest under Tax Code Chapter 41 for which a notice of protest was filed by a property owner on or after the effective date of this bill.

Section 41.46

SB 63 adds subsection (f) to require that an appraisal review board in counties with a population of 120,000 or more, send an electronic reminder by email or text stating the date, time and place of a protest hearing upon written request of a property owner. The board must deliver the electronic reminder to the property owner not earlier than the 7th day after delivering the notice of protest hearing and not later than one day before the date of the protest hearing.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a protest for which the notice of protest was filed on or after the effective date.

Section 41.461

HB 988 amends subsection (a) to require the chief appraiser deliver a copy of the hearing procedures adopted by the appraisal review board under Tax Code Section 41.01 to the property owner at least 14 days before a hearing on a protest.

Effective June 15, 2021.

Section 41.47

HB 988 amends subsection (c) to require an appraisal review board determination of value list separately the value of the land and improvements. The bill adds subsection (d-1) to specify the following additional requirements for appraisal districts established in counties with a population of 120,000 or more. The bill requires the chief appraiser, on written request, to deliver by email a copy of the notice of issuance of the order and a copy of the order of determination if the property subject to the order is not the subject of an agreement under Tax Code Section 1.085. The request can only be

submitted by the property owner, an attorney representing the property owner, or an individual designated by the property owner. The request must be submitted before the protest hearing relating to each property included in the request and the chief appraiser must deliver a copy of the notice of issuance of the order and a copy of the order of determination not later than the 21st day after the date the appraisal review board issues the order.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a protest under Tax Code Chapter 41 for which a notice of protest is filed by a property owner on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 41.66

HB 988 amends subsection (a) to require the appraisal review board conduct hearings in accordance with the adopted hearing procedures. The bill adds subsection (q) to authorize a property owner or chief appraiser to file a complaint with the appraisal district's taxpayer liaison officer alleging that the appraisal review board adopted or is implementing hearing procedures that are not in compliance with the Comptroller's model hearing procedures or not complying with Tax Code Chapter 41 procedural requirements. The bill requires the taxpayer liaison officer to investigate the complaint and report the findings of the investigation to the appraisal district board of directors. If the board determines the allegations in the complaint are true after reviewing the taxpayer liaison's report, the board of directors is to direct the chairman of the appraisal review board take remedial action. The bill authorizes the board of directors to remove the appraisal review board member serving as chairman from the chairman position if the board determines that the chairman failed to take actions necessary to bring the appraisal review board into compliance with Tax Code Section 5.103(d) or Tax Code Chapter 41, as applicable.

Effective June 15, 2021.

Section 41.67

SB 63 adds subsection (e) to prohibit a chief appraiser from offering evidence or argument in support of a reason for modifying or denying an exemption or special appraisal application other than a reason stated in the notice delivered to the applicant unless certain criteria are met.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a protest for which the notice of protest was filed on or after the effective date.

Chapter 41A. Appeal Through Binding Arbitration

Section 41A.015

HB 988 adds this section to authorize a property owner who has filed a notice of protest to file a request for limited binding arbitration to compel the appraisal review board or chief appraiser take certain action to compel the appraisal review board or chief appraiser, as appropriate, to:

- (1) rescind procedural rules adopted that are not in compliance with the Comptroller's model hearing procedures prepared under Tax Code Section 5.103;
- (2) schedule a hearing on a protest as required by Tax Code Section 41.45;
- (3) deliver information to the property owner in the manner required by Tax Code Section 41.461;
- (4) allow the property owner to offer evidence, examine or cross-examine witnesses or other parties and present arguments as required by Tax Code Section 41.66(b);
- (5) set a hearing for a time and date certain and postpone a hearing that does not begin within two hours of the scheduled time as required by Section Tax Code 41.66(i);
- (6) schedule hearings on protests concerning multiple properties identified in the same notice of protest on the same day at the request of the property owner or the property owner's designated agent as required by Tax Code Section 41.66(j) or
- (7) refrain from using or offering as evidence information requested by the property owner under Tax Code Section 41.461 that was not delivered to the property owner at least 14 days before the hearing as required by Tax Code Section 41.67(d).

The bill prohibits a property owner from filing a request for limited binding arbitration unless:

- (1) the property owner has delivered written notice to the appraisal review board chairman, the chief appraiser and the appraisal district's taxpayer liaison officer by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the procedural requirement with which the property owner alleges the appraisal review board or chief appraiser failed to comply on or before the fifth business day after the date the appraisal review board or chief appraiser was required to comply with the requirement; and

- (2) the appraisal review board chairman or chief appraiser, as applicable, fails to deliver to the property owner on or before the 10th day after the date the notice is delivered a written statement confirming that the appraisal review board or chief appraiser will comply with the requirement or cure a failure to comply with the requirement.

Except as otherwise provided by Subtitle F, the failure to comply with a procedural requirement listed under Subsection (a) is not a ground for postponement of a protest hearing. The appraisal review board is authorized to cure an alleged failure to comply with a procedural requirement that occurred during a hearing by rescinding the order determining the protest for which the hearing was held and scheduling a new hearing on the protest. A property owner is required to request limited binding arbitration by filing a request with the Comptroller. The property owner is prohibited from filing the request earlier than the 11th day or later than the 30th day after the date the property owner delivers the notice of the alleged violation to the appraisal review board chairman, the chief appraiser, and the taxpayer liaison officer for the applicable appraisal district.

The bill requires a request for limited binding arbitration be in a Comptroller-prescribed form and be accompanied by an arbitration deposit payable to the comptroller in the amount of:

- (1) \$450, if the property that is the subject of the protest to which the arbitration relates qualifies as the property owner's residence homestead under Tax Code Section 11.13 (Residence Homestead) and the appraised or market value, as applicable, of the property is \$500,000 or less, as determined by the appraisal district for the most recent tax year; or
- (2) \$550, for property other than property described by Subdivision (1).

The bill requires the Comptroller's office to prescribe the limited binding arbitration request form and that the form require the property owner to provide:

- (1) a statement that the property owner has provided the required written notice of violation;
- (2) a statement that the property owner has made the required arbitration deposit;
- (3) a brief statement identifying the procedural requirement with which the property owner alleges the

appraisal review board or chief appraiser, as applicable, has failed to comply;

- (4) a description of the action taken or not taken by the appraisal review board or chief appraiser regarding the procedural requirement;
- (5) a description of the property to which the award will apply; and
- (6) any other information reasonably necessary for the Comptroller to appoint an arbitrator.

The bill requires the Comptroller, on receipt of the request and deposit, to appoint an arbitrator from the arbitrator registry who is an eligible licensed attorney. The bill provides that the appraisal review board, the chief appraiser and the property owner are parties to the limited binding arbitration and authorizes the appraisal review board to appear by counsel, chairman or a person designated by the chairman. The chief appraiser may appear by counsel, in person or by a designated employee, and the property owner may appear in the manner provided by certain subsections.

The bill requires the arbitrator to make an arbitration award and deliver an electronic copy of it to the property owner, the appraisal review board chairman, the chief appraiser and the Comptroller. The bill provides that an award under this section:

- (1) must include a determination of whether the ARB or chief appraiser failed to comply with a procedural requirement as alleged in the limited binding arbitration request;
- (2) if the arbitrator determines that the appraisal review board or chief appraiser failed to comply with a procedural requirement as the request alleged, to the arbitrator must direct the appraisal review board or chief appraiser, as applicable, to comply with the procedural requirement, or, if the hearing on the protest has been held and the appraisal review board has issued an order determining the protest, the arbitrator must direct the appraisal review board to rescind the order and hold a new hearing on the protest that complies with the procedural requirement;
- (3) is required to specify the arbitrator's fee;
- (4) is final and is prohibited from being appealed; and
- (5) is enforceable as provided by Tax Code Section 41A.09 (Award; Payment of Arbitrator's Fee).

The bill provides that, if the arbitrator determines that the appraisal review board or chief appraiser failed to comply with the procedural requirement that was the subject of the limited binding arbitration:

- (1) the comptroller, on receipt of a copy of the award, must refund the property owner's arbitration deposit, less the Comptroller's \$50 administration fee (relating to authorizing the comptroller to retain \$50 of the property owner's arbitration deposit to cover the comptroller's administrative costs); and
- (2) the appraisal district must pay the arbitrator's fee.

The bill requires the Comptroller pay the arbitrator's fee out of the owner's arbitration deposit and to refund to the owner the owner's arbitration deposit, less the arbitrator's fee and the Comptroller's \$50 administration fee, if the arbitrator determines that the appraisal review board or chief appraiser complied with the procedural requirement that was the subject of the limited binding arbitration.

The appraisal review board or the chief appraiser, as soon as practicable after receiving notice of an award, must take any action required to comply with the requirements of the award, and, if the award requires the appraisal review board to conduct a new hearing, to schedule and conduct the hearing.

An award under this section does not affect the property owner's right to appeal the final determination of a protest by the appraisal review board under Tax Code Chapter 42 or to pursue any other legal or statutory remedy available to the property owner.

A property owner may request a single limited binding arbitration that covers more than one property, more than one protest hearing or an allegation of the failure by the appraisal review board or chief appraiser to comply with more than one procedural requirement so long as the filing requirements are met for each alleged failure to comply. The arbitration deposit amount and the arbitrator's fee are computed as if a single property were the subject of the arbitration. If the arbitration involves an allegation of the failure by the appraisal review board or chief appraiser to comply with procedural requirements, the bill requires the appraisal review board to come into compliance or, if an order was already issued, rescind the order and hold a new hearing. The bill specifies that Tax Code Section 41A.06 applies to the registration and qualification of an arbitrator under this section except that an arbitrator under this section is required to be a licensed attorney and

is required to agree to conduct an arbitration for a fee that is not more than \$400 if the property qualifies as the property owner's residence homestead and the appraised or market value of the property is \$500,000 or less or \$500 if the property subject to the arbitration is for any other type property. Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of this chapter apply to a limited binding arbitration under this section. In the event of a conflict between this section and another provision of this chapter, this section controls.

Effective June 15, 2021.

Section 41A.10

SB 1854 and **HB 988** amend subsection (a) to create an exception to the requirement that a property owner pay certain taxes on property subject to appeal for a property owner who has elected to defer the collection of taxes under Tax Code Section 33.06 or 33.065 and for which the deferral is still in effect. The bills add subsection (c) to provide that, for the purposes of a property owner from filing an appeal through binding arbitration, taxes are not considered delinquent on property subject to an appeal if the property owner has elected to defer the collection of taxes on the property under Tax Code Section 33.06 or 33.065 and the deferral is still in effect.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. The changes in law made by this bill apply only to a request for binding arbitration under Tax Code Chapter 41A, that is filed on or after the effective date of this bill. (SB 1854) Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a request for binding arbitration under Tax Code Chapter 41A that is filed on or after the effective date. (HB 988)

Chapter 42. Judicial Review

Section 42.015

HB 988 amends subsection (a) to provide that a person leasing property who is contractually obligated to reimburse the property owner for property taxes is entitled to appeal an appraisal review board order determining a protest relating to the property brought by the property owner if the property owner does not appeal the order.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies to an appeal under Tax Code Chapter 42 that is pending on the date the amendments to those sections take effect under this bill or that is filed on or after that date.

Section 42.23

HB 988 amends subsection (e) to prohibit a court from entering an order that conflicts with Tax Code Section 42.23(d), relating to each party to an appeal of an appraisal review board order being considered a party seeking affirmative relief for the purpose of discovery regarding expert witnesses, including a protective order under Rule 192.6 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

Effective June 15, 2021, and applies to an appeal under Tax Code Chapter 42 that is pending on the date the amendments to those sections take effect under this bill or that is filed on or after that date.

Chapter 312. Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act

Section 312.005

SB 1257 amends subsection (a) to require the report delivered by the chief appraiser of an appraisal district to the Comptroller list, for each tax abatement agreement to which a taxing unit participating in the appraisal district is a party, the kind, number, and location of all improvements subject to the agreement.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Civil Practice and Remedies Code

Sections 150C.001 and 150C.002, Chapter 150C

HB 1493 adds this chapter to define “governmental unit” and authorize a governmental unit to enjoin another person’s use of an entity name that falsely implies governmental affiliation with the governmental unit.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Education Code

Section 12.1058

HB 3610 amends subsection (a) to provide an open-enrollment charter school is considered to be a political subdivision for purposes of Civil Practice and Remedies Code Section

16.061, with respect to any property purchased, leased, constructed, renovated, or improved with state funds under Education Code Section 12.128; and a political subdivision for purposes of Tax Code Section 11.11.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date. An amendment to the Texas Constitution, Article VIII, was not proposed or passed by the 87th Texas Legislature.

Section 12.128

HB 3610 amends subsection (a) to provide property purchased with funds received by a charter holder under Education Code Section 12.106 is exempt from ad valorem taxation as provided by Tax Code Section 11.11. The bill amends subsection (a-1) to provide property leased with funds received by a charter holder under Education Code Section 12.106 is exempt from ad valorem taxation as provided by Tax Code Section 11.11. The bill adds subsection (a-2) to require the owner of property that receives a tax exemption under Subsection (a) transfer the amount of tax savings from the exemption to the tenant or reduce the common area maintenance fee in a proportionate amount based upon the square footage of the exempt portion of the property.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date. An amendment to the Texas Constitution, Article VIII, was not proposed or passed by the 87th Texas Legislature.

Section 44.004

HB 2723 amends subsection (c) to require that the notice for a public meeting state “Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.”

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 45.0021

HB 1525 amends subsection (a) to restrict a school district from levying (rather than increase the rate of) the district’s maintenance and operations tax rate at a rate intended to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district’s debt service. The bill adds

subsection (c) to require TEA develop a method to identify school districts that may have adopted a maintenance tax rate in violation of subsection (a), and include a review of data over multiple years; investigate to determine whether the district adopted a maintenance tax rate in violation, and specifies certain actions TEA must take when a school district is in violation. The bill adds subsection (d) to specify the implementation of a corrective action plan does not prohibit a school district from increasing the district's total tax rate as necessary to achieve other legal purposes. If a school district fails to take action under a corrective action plan, added subsection (e) authorizes the commissioner to reduce the district's entitlement under Education Code Chapter 48, Foundation School Program. The bill adds subsection (f) to provide the bill does not prohibit a school district from using a surplus in maintenance tax revenue to pay the district's debt service under certain conditions.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a tax rate adopted on or after the effective date.

Section 45.0032

SB 1438 amends subsection (d) to update references that for a school district to which Tax Code Section 26.042(e) (rather than Section 26.08(a-1)) applies, the amount by which the district's maintenance tax rate exceeds the district's voter-approval tax rate, excluding the district's current debt rate under Tax Code Section 26.08(n)(3) (rather than Section 26.08(n)(1) (C)) for the preceding year is not considered in determining a district's tier one maintenance and operations tax rate or the district's enrichment tax rate for the current tax year.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 45.351

HB 1133 adds this section to provide that this subchapter applies only to a county with a population of more than 40,000 but less than 55,000, and for which a county equalization tax was adopted under former Education Code Chapter 18 as that chapter existed on May 1, 1995, and continues in effect under Education Code Section 11.301. The bill authorizes the commissioners court of a county to which this subchapter applies to order an election on the question of revoking the county equalization tax, in accordance with former Education Code Section 18.11 and other applicable provisions of former Chapter 18, as that chapter existed on May 1, 1995, that continues in effect under Education Code Section 11.301.

Effective June 4, 2021.

Section 46.071

SB 1 (3rd CS) amends subsection (a) and adds subsection (a-1) to provide additional state aid to school districts to the extent that a district's combined state and local revenue used to service eligible debt after the increased homestead exemption would be less than the state and local revenue that would have been available for debt service had the homestead exemption not increased. The bill adds subsection (b-1) to provide beginning with the 2022-23 school year additional state aid is equal to the amount which the loss of local interest and sinking revenue for debt service attributable to the increased homestead exemption is not offset by a gain in state aid. Subsection (c-1) is added to specify eligible local interest and sinking revenue required to service debt for purpose of determining state aid.

Effective May 7, 2022, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (3rd CS), and applies beginning with the 2022 tax year.

Section 48.202

SB 1438 amends subsection (f) to update a reference to Tax Code Section 26.042(e), calculation and adoption of certain tax rates in disaster area.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 48.2541

SB 8 (2nd CS) adds this section, "Additional State Aid for Certain Ad Valorem Tax Refunds" to provide school districts additional state aid in an amount equal to the amount of all tax refunds provided under Tax Code Section 26.1115(c).

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, and applies only to a residence homestead acquired on or after the effective date.

Section 48.2542

SB 12 (2nd CS) adds this section, "Additional State Aid For Adjustment of Limitation on Tax Increases on Homestead of Elderly or Disabled" to provide school districts additional state aid to the extent state aid under the current funding formulas does not fully reimburse them for property tax revenue losses resulting from reductions in tax ceilings.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (2nd CS), and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 48.2543

SB 1 (3rd CS) adds this section to provide additional state aid to school districts the extent that combined state and local revenues for maintenance and operations (M&O) with the increased homestead exemption would be less than the district's combined state and local revenue for M&O had the homestead exemption not increased.

Effective May 7, 2022, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (3rd CS), and applies beginning with the 2022 tax year.

Section 48.2551

HB 1525 amends subsection (a) to define "DPV" as the taxable value of property in the school district, as determined by the agency by rule, using locally determined property values adjusted in accordance with Government Code Section 403.302(d). The bill amends subsection (c) to provide that, for a school district with a maximum compressed rate less than 90 percent of another school district's maximum compressed rate the district's maximum compressed rate is the value calculated in accordance with Education Code Section 48.2552(b), rather than the value calculated for "MCR" under Subsection (b)(1) (B). Added subsection (d-1) requires local appraisal districts, school districts, and the Comptroller to provide any information necessary to TEA for implementation. The bill adds subsection (d-2) to authorize a school district to appeal to the commissioner the district's taxable property value as determined by TEA under this section. Provides that a decision by the commissioner is final and is prohibited from being appealed.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 48.2552

HB 1525 amends subsection (b) to specify if a school district's maximum compressed rate as calculated under Education Code Section 48.2551(b) would be less than 90 percent of another school district's maximum compressed rate, the district's maximum compressed rate is the value at which the district's maximum compressed rate would be equal to 90 percent of the other district's maximum compressed rate.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 48.2556

SB 12 (2nd CS) adds this section "Posting on Agency Website of Information related to Reduction of Limitation of Tax on Homesteads of Elderly or Disabled," to assist the chief appraiser of each appraisal district and the assessor for each school

district make required calculations. The bill requires TEA post each school district's maximum compressed rate for each tax year beginning with 2019 and each school district's tier one maintenance and operations tax rate for the 2018 tax year. The bill specifies other requirements for posting.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (2nd CS), and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 48.2721

HB 1525 adds this section to require the commissioner to reduce state aid or adjust the limit on local revenue under Education Code Section 48.257 in an amount equal to the amount of revenue generated by a school district's tax effort that is not in compliance with Education Code Section 45.003, Bond and Tax Elections or Education Code Chapter 48.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Election Code

Section 13.004

SB 1134 reenacts and amends subsection (c) as amended by Chapters 469 (H.B. 4173), 489 (H.B. 3100), and 1146 (H.B. 2910), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, and expands the information furnished on a voter registration application excepted from the open record requirements of Government Code Section 552 to include:

- the residence address of the applicant, if the applicant is a certain judge or federal official, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or a family member, rather than the spouse, of a certain judge or federal official, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or an individual to whom Government Code Section 552.1175 (Exception: Confidentiality of Certain Personal Identifying Information of Peace Officers and Other Officials Performing Sensitive Governmental Functions), or Transportation Code Section 521.1211 (Driver's License for Peace Officer), applies and the applicant;
- included an affidavit with the registration application describing the applicant's status under this subdivision, if the applicant is a certain judge or federal official,

including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or a family member, rather than the spouse, of a certain judge or federal official, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or a state judge;

- provided the registrar with an affidavit describing the applicant’s status under this subdivision, if the applicant is a certain judge or federal official, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or a family member, rather than the spouse, of a certain judge or federal official, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney;

The bill adds subsection (f) to provide “family member” has the meaning assigned by Finance Code Section 31.006.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Government Code

Section 403.0241

HB 1154 amends subsection (c) to require the Special Purpose District Public Information Database maintained by the Comptroller, to include the address of any Internet website or websites the district uses to comply with Government Code Section 2051.202 or Tax Code Section 26.18 if a district does not maintain an Internet website.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 403.302

SB 12 (2nd CS) adds subsection (j-1) to require the Comptroller separately identify the final taxable value for each school district to account for the reduction in tax ceilings provided by Tax Code Sections 11.26 (a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10) in the school district property value study conducted by the Comptroller.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, contingent on voter approval of SJR 2 (2nd CS), and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 403.3022

SB 1245 adds this section titled “Farm and Ranch Survey” to codify the annual farm and ranch survey for estimating the

productivity value of qualified open-spaced land the Comptroller conducts as part of the school district property value study. The Comptroller is directed to prepare and publish an instructional guide to assist individuals in completing the farm and ranch survey including definitions, instructions, examples, and other information. The Comptroller must conduct an informational session open to the public on how to complete the survey and post a recording of the training on the website. The bill provides that the Comptroller shall solicit comments from the public and the Property Tax Administration Advisory Board at least once a year to determine the ease and understandability of the survey and to ensure questions are designed to generate reliable answers. The bill requires the chief appraiser of each appraisal district distribute the farm and ranch survey manual to the agricultural advisory board for the appraisal district. The Comptroller must distribute the guide to survey recipients and provide information on how to access the informational session.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 411.1296

HB 2491 amends subsection (c) to specify an appraisal district may provide criminal history record information to the local administrative district judge or to the appraisal review board commissioners appointed by the local administrative district judge for all members of an appraisal review board.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Section 551.001

SB 244 amends subdivision (3) to include a board of directors of a reinvestment zone created under Tax Code Chapter 311 (Tax Increment Financing Act), in the definition of “governmental body” for the purposes of Government Code Chapter 551.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 551.1283

HB 1154 adds subsection (d) to require a district that maintains an Internet website to post links on that website to any other Internet website or websites the district uses to comply with Government Code Section 2051.202 or Tax Code Section 26.18, Tax Code. The bill adds subsection (e) to provide that nothing in Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings, prohibit a district from allowing a person to watch or listen to a board meeting by video or telephone conference

call. This section only applies to a special purpose district subject to Water Code Chapter 51, 53, 54, or 55 that has a population of 500 or more.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 552.003

SB 841 adds subdivision (1-b) to provide “Honorably retired” means, with respect to a position, an individual who:

- (A) previously served but is not currently serving in the position;
- (B) did not retire in lieu of any disciplinary action;
- (C) was eligible to retire from the position or was ineligible to retire only as a result of an injury received in the course of the individual’s employment in the position; and
- (D) is eligible to receive a pension or annuity for service in the position or is ineligible to receive a pension or annuity only because the entity that employed the individual does not offer a pension or annuity to its employees.

Effective June 14, 2021, the change in law made by this bill applies only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date. To the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

Section 552.117

HB 1082, SB 56, SB 841, SB 1134 reenact this section as amended by Chapters 367 (H.B. 1351), 633 (S.B. 1494), 1146 (H.B. 2910), 1213 (S.B. 662), and 1245 (H.B. 2446), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, and amend subsection (a) to modify the individuals for whom information related to the home address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, social security number; or information that reveals whether the person has family members, is excepted from the open record requirements of Government Code Section 552.021 (Availability of Public Information):

- an elected public officer, rather than a state officer elected statewide or a member of the legislature (**HB 1082**)
- a current or former United States attorney, assistant United States attorney, federal public defender, deputy federal public defender, or assistant federal public

defender and the spouse or child of the current or former attorney or public defender, regardless of whether the person complies with Section 552.024 or 552.1175; (**SB 56**)

- a current or honorably retired peace officer as defined by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, or a current or honorably retired security officer commissioned under Section 51.212, Education Code regardless of whether the officer complies with Section 552.024 or 552.1175, as applicable (**SB 841**)
- a current or former federal judge or state judge, as those terms are defined by Election Code Section 1.005, a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney, or a family member of a current or former federal judge, including a federal bankruptcy judge, a marshal of the United States Marshals Service, a United States attorney (**SB 1134**)

SB 1134 amends subsection (c) to provide “family member” has the meaning assigned by Finance Code Section 31.006.

Effective May 19, 2021, (HB 1082) the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date, and to the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes. Effective June 14, 2021, (SB 56) (SB 841) the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date, and to the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes. Effective Sept. 1, 2021, (SB 1134)

Section 552.1175

HB 1082, SB 56, SB 841 reenact Chapters 367 (H.B. 1351), 633 (S.B. 1494), 1146 (H.B. 2910), 1213 (S.B. 662), and 1245 (H.B. 2446), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 and amends subsection (a) to add to the list of individuals for whom information related to the home address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, date of birth, social security number, or reveals family members is confidential if the individual chooses to restrict public access and notifies the governmental body of the choice on a

form provided by the governmental body accompanied by evidence of the individual's status:

- an elected public officer (**HB 1082**)
- a current or former United States attorney, assistant United States attorney, federal public defender, deputy federal public defender, or assistant federal public defender (**SB 56**)
- current or honorably retired peace officers as defined by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, or special investigators as described by Article 2.122, Code of Criminal Procedure; (**SB 841**)
- current or honorably retired county jailers as defined by Section 1701.001, Occupations Code; (**SB 841**)
- current or honorably retired police officers and inspectors of the United States Federal Protective Service (**SB 841**)

Effective May 19, 2021, (HB 1082) the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date, and to the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes. Effective June 14, 2021, (SB 56) (SB 841) the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a request for information that is received by a governmental body or an officer on or after the effective date, and to the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

Section 552.149

SB 334 amends subsection (b) to authorize the release of comparable sales data from the chief appraiser that is relevant to any matter to be determined by the arbitrator at the hearing on the property owner's appeal under Tax Code Chapter 41A. The bill provides that information remains confidential and is prohibited from being disclosed or used for any purpose except as evidence or argument at certain hearings, including at the hearing on the appeal under Tax Code Chapter 41A. The bill repeals subsection (e) regarding the population threshold for releasing certain information or data that relates to real property.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a request described by Government Code Section 552.149(b), received by the chief appraiser of an appraisal district on or after the effective date.

Section 552.2211

SB 1225 adds this section to require that, except as provided by Section 552.233, if a governmental body closes its physical offices, but requires staff to work, including remotely, it make a good faith effort to continue responding to applications for public information, to the extent staff have access to public information responsive to an application, pursuant to this chapter while its administrative offices are closed.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 552.233

SB 1225 amends Government Code Section 552.233, as added by Chapter 462 (**S.B. 494**), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, to provide that "catastrophe" means a condition or occurrence that directly interferes with the ability of a governmental body to comply with certain requirements of Government Code Chapter 552, Public Information. The bill specifies "catastrophe" does not mean a period when staff is required to work remotely and can access information responsive to an application for information electronically, but the physical office of the governmental body is closed. The bill exempts a governmental body from certain provisions of Chapter 552 if currently significantly impacted by a catastrophe such that the catastrophe directly causes the inability of a governmental body to comply with the requirements of Chapter 552; and authorizes the governmental body to suspend the applicability of the requirements of Chapter 552 under this subsection only once for each catastrophe.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 772.012

HB 1118 adds this section to require a local government submit a written certification of the compliance with the cybersecurity training required by Government Code Section 2054.5191 with the grant application to apply for a grant under Government Code Chapter 772, Governmental Planning

Effective May 18, 2021.

Section 1301.001

SB 186 amends subdivision (a) to authorize the commissioners court of a county to issue bonds authorized under Subtitle A and Chapter 1251, Bond Elections for restoring or maintaining a county courthouse.

Effective June 7, 2021.

Section 2051.201

HB 1154 redesignates Government Code Chapter 2051, Subchapter E, as added by Chapter 1029 (H.B. 305), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, Government Code Chapter 2051, Subchapter F. Subsection (a) provides this section applies only to a political subdivision with the authority to impose a tax that at any time on or after Jan. 1, 2019, maintained a publicly accessible Internet website, and that is not subject to Section 2051.202.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. To the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another Act of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

Section 2051.202

HB 1154 adds this section and provides this section only applies to a special purpose district that is authorized to impose a property tax; during the most recent fiscal year, imposed a property tax, had bonds outstanding, had gross receipts from operations, loans, taxes, or contributions in excess of \$250,000; or had cash and temporary investments in excess of \$250,000; and at the beginning of the most recent fiscal year, had a population of 500 or more, as determined by the governing body of the special purpose district. The bill defines “special purpose district” to mean a political subdivision of this state with geographic boundaries that define the subdivision’s territorial jurisdiction. The term does not include a municipality, county, junior college district, independent school district, groundwater conservation district, river authority, or political subdivision with statewide jurisdiction. Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (b), this section applies to a district created and operating under Local Government Code Chapter 387, County Assistance District. Subsection (d) requires a special purpose district to post or cause to be posted the following information on an Internet website, if applicable:

- (1) the name of the special purpose district;
- (2) the name and term of office of each member of the governing body of the special purpose district;
- (3) the contact information for the main office of the special purpose district, including the physical address, the mailing address, and the telephone number;
- (4) the official contact information for each member of the governing body of the special purpose district;
- (5) if the special purpose district employs a person as a general manager or executive director, or in another position to perform duties or functions comparable

to those of a general manager or executive director, the name of the general manager, executive director, or person that performs those duties;

- (6) if the special purpose district contracts with a utility operator, the contact information for a person representing the utility operator, including a mailing address and telephone number;
- (7) if the special purpose district contracts with a tax assessor-collector, the contact information for a person representing the tax assessor-collector, including a mailing address and telephone number;
- (8) if the special purpose district imposes an ad valorem tax, the rate of the ad valorem tax of the special purpose district;
- (9) if the special purpose district imposes a sales and use tax, the rate of the sales and use tax of the special purpose district;
- (10) any notice of tax hearing required to be given under Tax Code Chapter 26 (Assessment), or Water Code Section 49.236 (Notice of Tax Hearing);
- (11) the location and schedule of meetings of the governing body of the special purpose district;
- (12) a statement substantially similar to a certain form as set forth in this subdivision;
- (13) each notice of a meeting of the governing body of the special purpose district under Government Code Subchapter C (Notice of Meetings), Chapter 551 (Open Meetings), for meetings conducted in the current calendar year and the immediately preceding calendar year;
- (14) the minutes of a public meeting of the governing body of the special purpose district under Government Code Section 551.021 (Minutes or Recording of Open Meeting Required) for meetings conducted in the current calendar year and the immediately preceding calendar year; and
- (15) the most recent financial audit of the special purpose district.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. Government Code Section 2051.202(d) (13) and (14), as added by this bill, apply only to a meeting held by a special purpose district on or after the effective date. To the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another Act of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

Section 2054.519

HB 1118 repeals Government Code Section 2054.519(f), as added by Chapter 1308 (H.B. 3834), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, related to authorizing a local government that employs a dedicated information resources cybersecurity officer to offer to its employees a cybersecurity training program that satisfies applicable requirements.

Effective May 18, 2021.

Section 2054.5191

HB 1118 amends the heading of this section to Cybersecurity Training Required: Certain Employees and Officials. Amends subsection (a-1) to add training requirements for elected and appointed officials and specify that at least once a year a local government identify employees or officials who use a computer to perform at least 25 percent of their required duties complete a cybersecurity training program. The bill authorizes the governing body of a local government or designee to deny access to the local government's computer system or database to an individual who the governing body or designee determines is noncompliant with the requirements of training.

Effective May 18, 2021.

Section 2251.042

HB 1476 amends subsection (a) to require a governmental entity to notify a vendor of an error or disputed amount in an invoice submitted for payment by the vendor not later than the 21st day after the date the entity receives the invoice, and to include in such notice a detailed statement of the amount of the invoice which is disputed. The bill adds subsection (d) to authorize the governmental entity to withhold no more than 110 percent of the disputed amount from required payments.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a contract entered into on or after the effective date.

Section 2254.102

HB 1428 amends subsection (e) to extend the exemption for certain collection services contracts from provisions governing contingent fee contracts for legal services to any contract for legal services entered into by a political subdivision for the collection of a delinquent obligation. The bill provides that for purposes of this exemption an obligation does not include a fine or penalty that results from an action by a

political subdivision under specified Water Code enforcement provisions.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a contract entered into on or after the effective date.

Local Government Code

Section 43.004

HB 1900 adds this section to prohibit a defunding municipality from annexing an area during the period beginning on the date that the criminal justice division of the Governor's Office issues the written determination that the municipality is a defunding municipality and ending on the 10th anniversary of the date on which the criminal justice division of the Governor's Office issues a written determination finding that the defunding municipality has reversed the reduction.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 43.1465

HB 1900 adds this section to require a defunding municipality hold a separate election in each area annexed in the preceding 30 years on the question of disannexing the area on the next uniform election date that occurs after the date on which the division issues a written determination that the municipality is a defunding municipality. The bill requires the defunding municipality to immediately disannex an area for which a majority of the votes received in the election favor disannexation. A defunding municipality is prohibited from attempting to annex the area before the 10th anniversary of the date on which the division issues a written determination in accordance that the defunding municipality has reversed the reduction.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Sections 109.001, 109.002, 109.003, 109.004, 109.005, and 109.006, Chapter 109

HB 1900 adds this chapter "Determination of Defunding Municipalities" including these sections to apply to a municipality with a population of more than 250,000. The bill specifies a defunding municipality is a municipality:

- that adopts a budget for a fiscal year that, in comparison to the municipality's preceding fiscal year, reduces the appropriation to the municipality's police department; and

- for which the division issues a written determination finding that the municipality has made the reduction.

The bill provides for the criminal justice division of the Governor’s Office to identify municipalities that reduce appropriations to the police department year-over-year, as specified. If a municipality is determined to be a “defunding municipality” certain restrictions are placed on annexation, taxation, and charges from a municipal-owned utility until the reductions are reversed and adjusted for inflation.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to a budget adopted for a fiscal year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 111.003

SB 1357 amends subsection (a) to require the county judge, assisted by the county auditor or county clerk in a county with a population of 225,000 or less, to prepare a budget to cover all proposed expenditures of the county government for the succeeding fiscal year not later than August 15.

Effective June 14, 2021, and the changes in law made by this bill apply to a budget proposed by a county commissioners court for a fiscal year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 111.006

SB 1357 amends subsection (a) to require the county judge file a copy of the proposed budget with the county clerk not later than August 15 in a county with a population of 225,000 or less.

Effective June 14, 2021, and the changes in law made by this bill apply to a budget proposed by a county commissioners court for a fiscal year beginning on or after the effective date.

Section 111.007

SB 1357 amends subsection (b) to require the commissioners court of a county with a population of 225,000 or less to hold the public hearing on the proposed budget not later than the 25th day after the day the budget is filed but before the commissioners court adopts the county’s property tax rate for the current tax year. The bill amends subsection (c) to require the commissioners court give public notice that it will consider the proposed budget under this subsection not earlier than the 30th day before the date of the hearing and not later than the 10th day before the date of the hearing.

Effective June 14, 2021, and the changes in law made by this bill apply to a budget proposed by a county commissioners court for a fiscal year beginning on or after the effective date.

Sections 120.001, 120.002, 120.003, 120.004, 120.005, 120.006, and 120.007, Chapter 120

SB 23 adds this chapter “Election for Reduction of Funding or Resources for Certain Primary Law Enforcement Agencies” including these sections to apply to a county with a population of more than one million. The bill requires a county, except as provided by Section 120.003, to hold an election in accordance with this chapter if the county adopts a budget for a fiscal year that, compared to the budget adopted by the county for the preceding fiscal year reduces certain funding for a law enforcement agency with primary responsibility for policing, criminal investigation, and answering calls for service or reallocates funding or resources to another law enforcement agency. The bill prohibits a county from implementing a proposed reduction or reallocation until the county receives voter approval for the proposed reduction or reallocation at an election held for that purpose and provides certain budget exceptions.

Section 120.006 authorizes a person who resides in the county, who believes that a county reduced funding without the required voter approval file a complaint with the criminal justice division of Governor’s Office. The bill requires the criminal justice division to determine whether a complaint is potentially valid or frivolous or false. Subsection (c) requires the criminal justice division to provide written notice of a potentially valid complaint to the county that is the subject of the complaint. The division must provide the county an opportunity to correct the action that is the subject of the complaint before referring the complaint to the Comptroller.

Section 120.007 requires the Comptroller, on request of the criminal justice division of the Governor’s Office determine whether a county has implemented a proposed reduction or reallocation described by Section 120.002(a) without the required voter approval. The bill requires the Comptroller to issue a written determination to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, and governing body of the county.

If the Comptroller determines that the county implemented a proposed reduction or reallocation described by Section 120.002(a) without the required voter approval, the county is prohibited from adopting a property tax rate that exceeds the county’s no-new-revenue tax rate until the earlier of the date the Comptroller issues a written determination that the county has reversed each funding reduction or restored all reallocated funding and resources, or each reduction and

reallocation that was a subject of the determination has been approved in an election. The unused increment rate for a county in a tax year the Comptroller determines that a county implemented a proposed reduction or reallocation without the required voter approval is considered zero.

Effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 211.009

HB 1475 adds subdivision (b-1) to authorize the municipal board of adjustment exercising authority under subsection (a) (3) (board authorizing variance from the terms of a zoning ordinance under certain conditions), to consider the following to determine whether compliance with the ordinance as applied to a structure that is the subject of the appeal would result in unnecessary hardship:

- (1) the financial cost of compliance is greater than 50 percent of the appraised value of the structure as shown on the most recent appraisal roll certified to the assessor for the municipality under Tax Code Section 26.01 (Submission of Rolls to Taxing Units);
- (2) compliance would result in a loss to the lot on which the structure is located of at least 25 percent of the area on which development is authorized to physically occur;
- (3) compliance would result in the structure not being in compliance with a requirement of a municipal ordinance, building Code or other requirement;
- (4) compliance would result in the unreasonable encroachment on an adjacent property or easement; or
- (5) the municipality considers the structure to be a non-conforming structure.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and applies only to an appeal filed with a municipal board of adjustment on or after the effective date.

Sections 232.151, 232.152, 232.153, Subchapter F

HB 1564 adds this subchapter, Abandoned, Unoccupied, and Undeveloped Platted Lots in Certain Counties, to Local Government Code Chapter 232, County Regulation of Subdivisions, and provides that the subchapter applies only to a county that: has a population of more than 800,000; is adjacent to an international border; and contains more than 30,000 acres of lots that have remained substantially undeveloped for more than 25 years after the date the lots were platted. The bill adds subsection (a) to Local Government

Code Section 232.152 to authorize a commissioner's court, to implement an expedited process to administratively determine that a platted lot is abandoned, unoccupied, and undeveloped if the lot:

- (1) has remained undeveloped for 25 years or more after the date the lot was platted;
- (2) is part of a subdivision in which 50 percent or more of the lots are undeveloped or unoccupied;
- (3) is part of a subdivision in which 50 percent or more of the lots are ten acres or less in size;
- (4) had an assessed value of less than \$1,000 as of Jan. 1, 2021; and
- (5) as of Jan. 1, 2021, was not valued for ad valorem taxation as land for agricultural use pursuant to Tax Code Subchapter C (Land Designated for Agricultural Use), Chapter 23 (Appraisal Methods and Procedures).

The bill adds subsection (b) to specify the county has no ownership interest in any lot that is administratively determined to be abandoned, unoccupied and undeveloped, or that is placed in a receivership under, except for any existing or future legal interest established by other law.

The bill adds subsection (a) to Local Government Code Section 232.153 to require a county hold a public hearing and make reasonable efforts to notify each owner and lienholder of the lot of the time and place of the hearing as provided by Section 232.154 before making an administrative determination that a platted lot is abandoned, unoccupied, and undeveloped. Added subsections (b) through (g) specify requirements for the hearing. The bill adds Local Government Code Section 232.154 to provide requirements for notice of the hearing. Added Section 232.155 provides any owner or lienholder of record of a platted lot aggrieved by an order issued under Section 232.153 may file in a district court in the county in which the property is located a verified petition alleging that the decision is illegal, in whole or in part, and stating with specificity the grounds of the alleged illegality. The bill adds Section 232.156 to provide after a final determination that a platted lot is abandoned, unoccupied, and undeveloped, the county shall bring a civil action to have the lot placed in a receivership. Added Section 232.157 specifies authority and duty of the receiver.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 271.003

SB 58 adds cloud computing services to the definition of “personal property.” The bill provides that it is the intent of the legislature that the definition of the term “personal property” under Local Government Code Section 271.003(8), as amended by this bill, is applicable only to Local Government Code Chapter 271, Subchapter A.

Effective June 3, 2021.

Section 373B.003

SB 113 amends subdivision (2) to modify the qualifications for a community land trust to include limited partnerships and limited liability companies in which a nonprofit corporation controls or serves as the only member.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021 and applies only to property taxes imposed for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date.

Section 372.010

HB 1543 amends subsection (a) to require that a resolution authorizing an improvement district in accordance with a certain finding, except for a resolution authorizing a district described by Section 372.0035 provide that the authorization takes effect on the date the resolution is adopted. Subsection (b) requires a municipality or county, not later than the seventh day after the date the governing body of a municipality or county adopts a resolution under Subsection (a), to file a copy of the resolution with the county clerk of each county in which all or part of the improvement district is located.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 372.0121

SB 804 amends this section to authorize the governing body of a municipality, notwithstanding Section 372.012 or any other requirement in Chapter 372 to include property in a public improvement district described by Section 372.0035 after the establishment of the district, if a sufficient number of the record owners of the real property currently included and proposed to be included in the district have consented to be included in the district by signing the original petition to establish the district or by signing a petition or written consent to include property in the district.

Effective June 14, 2021.

Section 375.2621

SB 604 adds this section to require the board of directors of a municipal management district consider a petition for dissolution under Section 375.262 (Dissolution by Petition by Owners) within 60 days after the date the petition is filed. The bill prohibits the management district from issuing bonds secured by assessments after the date the board confirms that the petition is valid and complete under Section 375.262.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a municipal management district that is the subject of a petition described by Local Government Code Section 375.262, filed with the board on or after the effective date. The changes in law made by this bill may not be construed to impair an obligation under a contract entered into before the effective date of this bill. A political subdivision may fulfill the subdivision’s obligations under a contract entered into before that date but may not extend such a contract beyond the contract’s original term.

Section 375.264

SB 604 modifies the title of this section to “Limitations on Dissolution by Board of District with Debt.” The bill prohibits a district from being dissolved by its board under Local Government Code Section 375.261 (Dissolution by Board Vote) or after a petition is filed under Local Government Code Section 375.262 if the district has outstanding bonded indebtedness until that bonded indebtedness has been repaid or defeased in accordance with the order or resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds. Added subsection (b) provides that, if a petition is filed under Section 375.262 with the board of a district and the district has outstanding bonded indebtedness secured by assessments:

- the district is required to remain in existence solely for the purposes of winding up district operations and discharging its bonded indebtedness; and
- the board is required to use all district money that is available to wind up district operations and to repay or defease all bonded indebtedness as soon as practicable in accordance with the order or resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, and the changes in law made by this bill apply only to a municipal management district that is the subject of a petition described by Local Government Code Section 375.262, filed with the board on or after the effective date. The changes in law made by this bill may not be

construed to impair an obligation under a contract entered before the effective date of this bill. A political subdivision may fulfill the subdivision's obligations under a contract entered before that date but may not extend such a contract beyond the contract's original term.

Sections 379H.001 – 379H.006, Chapter 379H SB 1679 adds this chapter “Urban Land Bank Program in Municipality with Populations of Two Million or More” to define “board,” “land bank,” “non-qualifying municipality,” and “real property.” The bill provides that a land bank created under this chapter exists for the purpose of acquiring, managing, and disposing of vacant, abandoned, deteriorated, non-revenue generating, and non-tax producing properties and converting those properties to productive uses. The bill requires this chapter be construed liberally to carry out the intended purposes as a complete and independent authorization for the performance of each and every act and thing authorized by this chapter, and requires that all powers granted be broadly interpreted to carry out the intended purposes and not as a limitation of powers. The bill adds the following subchapters: Subchapter B, Board of Directors, Subchapter C, Creation, Operation, and Dissolution of Land Bank, Subchapter D, Acquisition and Disposition of Property, Subchapter E, Financing of Land Bank Operations.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. Notwithstanding Local Government Code Section 379H.157(b), as added by this bill, an urban land bank established under Local Government Code Chapter 379H as added by this bill, that holds fee simple title to real property before the effective date of this bill is not required to convey, exchange, sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of the real property, as required by that subsection, until the last day of the fifth consecutive year during which the urban land bank holds the fee simple title on and after the effective date of this bill.

Occupations Code

Section 51.002

HB 1560 amends this section to extend the sunset date from Sept. 1, 2021 to Sept. 1, 2033 for the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 51.252

HB 1560 amends subsection (a) to require TDLR to maintain a system to promptly and efficiently act on complaints filed with TDLR. TDLR is required to maintain information about parties to the complaint, the subject matter of the complaint, a summary of the results of the review or investigation of the complaint, and its disposition. The bill adds subsection (b-2) to require TDLR to make information available describing its procedures for complaint investigation and resolution.

The bill repeals subsection (d) regarding TCLR procedure for documenting complaints to the department from the time of the submission of the initial complaint to the final disposition.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 51.2521

HB 1560 adds this section to require TDLR assign priorities and investigate complaints based on risk to the public of the conduct alleged in the complaint. The bill requires TDLR to dismiss a complaint if at any time TDLR determines that an allegation or formal complaint submitted by a person is inappropriate or without merit.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 51.255

HB 1560 adds this section to require TDLR to make available on TDLR's Internet website a statistical analysis of the complaints received by TDLR.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 51.405

HB 1560 amends subsection (a) to require TDLR, rather than TCLR, to recognize, prepare, or administer continuing education programs for license holders. The bill authorizes TCLR by rule, to establish a minimum number of hours of continuing education required for license renewal, to provide for the registration and renewal of continuing education providers and the approval of continuing education courses, and to assess reasonable and necessary fees on continuing education providers. In adopting rules under this section for a program regulated by TDLR, TCLR is required to consult with the advisory board established for the program, if applicable.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 1151.109

SB 916 adds this section to require TCLR by rule require TDLR to include in the record of the registered professional appraiser who serves as chief appraiser for an appraisal district at the time the Comptroller finalizes the biennial review of the appraisal district's performance under Tax Code Section 5.102(c) an electronic link to:

- (1) the Comptroller's report for the review; and
- (2) each school district property value study the Comptroller conducts under Government Code Chapter 403, Subchapter M that is used in the review.

The bill provides an appraisal may to request information on a registered professional appraiser whom the board of directors of the appraisal district is considering for appointment as chief appraiser of the appraisal district. TDLR is required to inform the requestor of the status of any compliance efforts of an appraisal district under Tax Code Section 5.102(d) for previous reviews in which the appraiser served as chief appraiser of that appraisal district.

As soon as practicable after the effective date of this bill the TCLR shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 1151.1581

HB 1560 amends subsection (a) to require the Comptroller to review and approve any (rather than all) continuing education programs for registrants. The bill strikes language regarding TCLR, continuing education programs, and fees. The bill strikes language requiring a registrant to participate in the programs to the extent required by TDLR to keep the person's certificate of registration.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 1152.106

HB 1560 amends the heading of this section to "Vote Required for Action." The bill strikes language requiring the Property Tax Consultants Advisory Council to meet at least semiannually at the call of the presiding officer or at the call of a majority of its members.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Property Code

Section 5.014

HB 1543 amends subsection (a), for a district described by Local Government Code Section 372.0035 be executed by the seller and prescribes required language for the notice. The bill authorizes the seller or the municipality or county that created the public improvement district to provide additional information regarding the district in the notice prescribed by Subsection (a-1) or (a-2), including whether an assessment has been levied, the amount of the assessment, and the payment schedule for assessments.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Sections 5.0141-5.0145

HB 1543 adds these sections to require that the notice required by Section 5.014 be given to the prospective purchaser before the execution of a binding contract of purchase and sale, either separately or as an addendum or paragraph of a purchase contract. The bill specifies obligations and penalties on sellers of home sales in public improvement districts.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Section 52.0012

HB 3115 amends this section to provide that a judgment debtor may file, at any time, a certificate of mailing that substantially complies with Property Code Section 52.0012(g). The bill would provide that a judgment debtor who files the affidavit must send a letter notifying the judgment creditor of the filing of the affidavit and a copy of the filed affidavit to certain addresses. The bill would provide that, if a judgment debtor has filed a certificate of mailing and a contradicting affidavit is not filed, a bona fide purchaser or mortgagee and similarly situated individuals can rely conclusively on the affidavit for the 90-day period that begins on the 31st day after the certificate of mailing was filed.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. The change in law made by this bill applies only to an affidavit filed under Property Code Section 52.0012(b) as amended by this bill on or after the effective date.

Special District Local Laws Code

Section 3501.0047

HB 4579 adds subsection (b) to provide that Tax Code Section 25.07(a), relating to requirements for a leasehold or other possessory interest in real property that is exempt from taxation or interest, applies to a leasehold or other possessory interest in real property granted by the authority for a project designated under Section 3501.1024(a) in the same manner as it applies to a leasehold or other possessory interest in real property constituting a project described by Local Government Code. The bill adds subsection (c) to provide that a commercial aircraft to be used as an instrument of commerce that is under construction in the authority is presumed to be in interstate, international, or foreign commerce and not located in this state for longer than a temporary period for purposes of Tax Code Sections 11.01 and 21.02. Added subsection (d) provides that tangible personal property located in the authority is presumed to be in interstate, international, or foreign commerce and not located in this state for longer than a temporary period for purposes of Tax Code Sections 11.01 and 21.02, if the owner demonstrates to the chief appraiser for the appraisal district in which the authority is located that the owner intends to incorporate the property into or attach the property to a commercial aircraft described by Subsection (c).

Section 3828.157

SB 1438 amends this section to include Tax Code Section 26.042(e), calculation and adoption of certain tax rates in disaster area, in the list of certain sections that do not apply to a tax imposed under Section 3828.153 (Maintenance and Operation Tax; Election) or 3828.156 (Taxes for Bonds and Other Obligations).

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 8876.152

SB 1438 amends this section to include Tax Code Section 26.042(e), calculation and adoption of certain tax rates in disaster area, in the list of certain sections that do not apply to a tax imposed by the Reeves County Groundwater Conservation District.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Transportation Code

Section 521.1211

HB 368 amends this section to add prosecutors to individuals (currently peace officers) who are eligible to use an alternative to their residence address for an address shown on a driver's license. Subsection (a) defines "prosecutor" as a county attorney, district attorney, criminal district attorney, assistant county attorney, assistant district attorney, or assistant criminal district attorney. The Department of Public Safety is required to accept the address of an office of the prosecutor as an alternative address.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

Water Code

Section 49.062

HB 1154 amends subsection (b) to exclude a "rural area district." Added subsection (b-1) defines "rural area district" and provides if the board of a rural area district conducts meetings at least quarterly, the board shall conduct a meeting at a designated meeting location inside the district or within 10 miles of the boundary of the district at least once per quarter unless the board determines it is not practical to meet within 10 miles of the boundary.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. To the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

Section 49.0631

HB 1154 amends title of section to "District Information on Water Bill." The bill amends this section to authorize the required statement on a district's bill to a customer be altered to provide the current Internet website address of the database created under Government Code Section 403.0241, the district, or the Internet website or websites the district uses to comply with Government Code Section 2051.202 and Tax Code Section 26.18.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021. To the extent of any conflict, this bill prevails over another bill of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

Section 49.107

SB 1438 amends subsection (g) to update a reference to Tax Code Section 26.042, calculation and adoption of certain tax rates in disaster area.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 49.108

SB 1438 amends subsection (f) to update a reference to Tax Code Section 26.042, calculation and adoption of certain tax rates in disaster area.

Effective June 16, 2021.

Section 49.236

HB 2723 amends subsection (a) to require the notice of each meeting of the board at which the adoption of a tax rate will be considered contain a statement in substantially the same form as “Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.”

Effective June 3, 2021, and applies only to a notice required to be delivered for a property tax year that begins on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

Section 49.4645

HB 1410 amends subsection (a) to create an exception under (a-1) to the prohibition on the outstanding principal amount of bonds, notes, and other obligations issued to finance parks and recreational facilities supported by property taxes from exceeding an amount equal to one percent of the value of the taxable property in the district as shown by the tax rolls of the central appraisal district at the time of the issuance of the bonds, notes, and other obligations. The bill amends subsection (a-1) to authorize the outstanding principal amount of bonds, notes, and other obligations issued to finance a recreational facility under subsection (a) to exceed an amount equal to one percent but not three percent of the value of the taxable property in the district or, if supported by contract taxes under Water Code Section 49.108, the value of the taxable property in the districts making payments under the contract, if the district meets specified criteria. Amends this section to modify the requirements before a municipal utility district may apply its taxing power and lien authority to a defined area or designated property to after the proposed plan

is adopted and the voters approve the imposition of taxes and issuances of bonds.

Effective June 14, 2021.

Section 54.016

HB 1410 amends subsection (e) to authorize a city’s consent to the inclusion of land in a district to restrict the purposes for which a district is authorized to issue bonds to purposes authorized by law for the district.

Effective June 14, 2021, and does not affect the terms of a city’s resolution or ordinance adopted before the effective date of this bill that constitutes a valid written consent under Section 54.016 (Consent of City) of that code for land that was included in a district prior to the effective date.

Session Law

SB 1 requires the Comptroller to conduct a study out of appropriated funds to determine the amount of property tax revenue that each county containing a United States military installation, each county adjacent to a county containing a United States military installation, and each municipality located in either type of those counties lost for the 2021 property tax year as the result of the granting of the property tax exemption required by Tax Code Section 11.131. The revenue loss would be calculated by multiplying the property tax rate adopted by the county or municipality, as applicable, for the 2021 property tax year by the total appraised value of all property located in the county or municipality, as applicable, that was granted the exemption for that tax year.

The bill requires the Comptroller to prepare a report that states the amount of property tax revenue that was lost by:

- each municipality listed by name;
- each county listed by name; and
- all municipalities and counties in this state in the aggregate.

The bill requires the Comptroller not later than Dec. 1, 2022, to submit the report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Lieutenant Governor, and each member of the Legislature.

Effective Sept. 1, 2021.

SB 1 (3rd CS) authorizes the Comptroller to adopt rules for the purpose of implementing and administering the provisions of the bill, including rules relating to the form of certain information required to be provided by tax officials and the date on which the information must be provided.

Effective Oct. 25, 2021.

Texas Constitution

Article VIII, Section 1-b

SJR 2 (3rd CS) amends subsection (c) to increase the mandatory homestead exemption for school district property taxes from \$25,000 to \$40,000. Adds a temporary provision to the constitution, which expires on January 1, 2023, specifying that the amendment to subsection (c) takes effect January 1, 2022 and applies only to a tax year beginning on or after that date.

This amendment will be put before the voters at an election to be held May 7, 2022.

HJR 125 amends subsection (d) to allow the surviving spouse of a disabled person with a tax ceiling to retain the tax ceiling. The resolution requires a collector who collected school district property taxes from a surviving spouse who, under the law as amended by Section 1, Chapter 1284 (H.B. 1313), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, was entitled to receive a limitation on school district taxes on the spouse's residence homestead to calculate the school district taxes that should have been imposed for the 2020 and 2021 tax years taking into account the change in law made by that Act. If the taxes collected by the collector for those tax years exceed the taxes that should have been imposed as calculated under this subsection, the collector is required

to refund to the surviving spouse the difference between the taxes collected and the taxes that should have been imposed as calculated under this subsection.

This amendment was approved by voters at an election held Nov. 2, 2021.

SJR 2 (2nd CS) adds subsection (d-2) to authorize the Legislature by general law to reduce the limitation on school property taxes on the residence homesteads of 65-and-over or disabled individuals to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate, as defined by general law, on the homestead.

This amendment will be put before the voters at an election to be held May 7, 2022.

SJR 35 amends subsection (m) to authorize the Legislature by general law to provide an exemption from property taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is fatally injured in the line of duty if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the member of the armed services.

This amendment was approved by voters at an election held Nov. 2, 2021.

Article VIII, Section 1-g

HJR 99 amends subsection (b) to authorize the Legislature by general law to authorize a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of transportation or infrastructure in unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted areas in the county.

This amendment was approved by voters at an election held Nov. 2, 2021.

For more information, visit our website:
comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax

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