

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 853  
By: Madla  
Jurisprudence  
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Enrolled

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, a person can solicit a homeowner for the service of applying for a property tax refund from a tax appraisal district or other governmental body on behalf of the homeowner. S.B. 853 requires a person who solicits a homeowner solely by mail or by telephone to pay a fee for the service of applying for a property tax refund from a tax appraisal district or other governmental body and would require the person to disclose to the homeowner the name of the governmental body before accepting money from the homeowner.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends the heading to Section 41.0051, Property Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 41.0051. DISCLAIMER AND DISCLOSURE REQUIRED

SECTION 2. Amends Section 41.0051, Property Code, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(b) Requires a person who solicits solely by mail or by telephone a homeowner to pay a fee for the service of applying for a property tax refund from a tax appraisal district or other governmental body on behalf of the homeowner, before accepting money from the owner or signing a contract with the homeowner for the person's services, to disclose to the homeowner the name of the tax appraisal district or other governmental body that owes the homeowner a refund.

(c) Redesignated from existing Subsection (b). Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2003.