1-1 Casteel (Senate Sponsor - Wentworth) H.B. No. 2844 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 19, 2003; May 20, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; May 23, 2003, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 23, 2003, sent to printer.) 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5

> A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to the exemption from the requirement that a person register as a property tax consultant to perform certain property tax consulting services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 1152.002(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) A person is not required to be registered under this chapter if the person:
- (1) is acting under a general power of attorney, unless the person represents that the person is a property tax consultant, agent, advisor, or representative;
  - (2) is licensed to practice law in this state;
- (3) is an employee of a property owner or of an affiliated or subsidiary company of a property owner and performs property tax consulting services for:
  - (A) the property owner; or
- (B) a partnership, joint venture, or corporation
- in which the property owner owns an interest;

  (4) is a lessee of a property owner and is designated as the agent of the owner in accordance with Section 1.111, Tax Code;
- (5) is a public employee or officer and assists a property owner in the course of the employee's or officer's duties; is a certified public accountant under Chapter (6)
- assists another person in the performance of property tax consulting services or provides testimony on behalf of the other person at a protest hearing under Subchapter C, Chapter 41, Tax Code; or
- (8) provides property tax consulting services only in connection with <u>farms</u>, <u>ranches</u>, <u>or</u> <u>single-family</u> residences and:
- (A) holds an active real estate broker license or an active real estate salesperson license under Chapter 1101; or
- is a licensed real estate appraiser or (B) certified real estate appraiser under Chapter 1103.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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