

By: Wentworth

S.B. No. 726

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the purchasing and contracting authority of an appraisal district; providing penalties.

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

SECTION 1. Section 6.11, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.11. PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING AUTHORITY [~~COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENT~~]. (a) An [~~The board of directors of an~~] appraisal district [~~may not make a contract requiring an expenditure of more than \$15,000 unless the proposed contract is submitted to competitive bidding.~~

[~~(b) The board of directors~~] is subject to the same requirements and has the same purchasing and contracting authority [~~powers regarding the following matters~~] as [~~apply to~~] a municipality [~~commissioners court~~] under Chapter 252 [~~the Certificate of Obligation Act of 1971 (Subchapter C, Chapter 271)~~], Local Government Code.

(b) For purposes of this section, all the provisions of Chapter 252, Local Government Code, applicable to a municipality or to purchases and contracts by a municipality apply to an appraisal district and to purchases and contracts by an appraisal district to the extent they can be made applicable, and all references to the municipality in that chapter mean the appraisal district. For purposes of applying Section 252.061, Local Government Code, to an

1 appraisal district, any resident of the appraisal district may seek  
2 an injunction under that section. Sections 252.062 and 252.063,  
3 Local Government Code, apply to an officer or employee of an  
4 appraisal district in the same manner those sections apply to a  
5 municipal officer or employee. [ ]:

6 ~~[(1) notice of the contract;~~

7 ~~[(2) issuance of the contract to the lowest~~  
8 ~~responsible bidder;~~

9 ~~[(3) rejection of bids;~~

10 ~~[(4) expenditure of funds on the completion and~~  
11 ~~acceptance of the contract;~~

12 ~~[(5) exceptions to the competitive bidding~~  
13 ~~requirement;~~

14 ~~[(6) change orders; and~~

15 ~~[(7) effect of noncompliance with the competitive~~  
16 ~~bidding requirements.~~

17 ~~[(c) The notice of the contract shall be published in a~~  
18 ~~newspaper of general circulation in the district. If there is no~~  
19 ~~newspaper of general circulation in the district, the notice shall~~  
20 ~~be posted at the appraisal office for the district.]~~

21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 2003, if it  
22 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each  
23 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.  
24 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for effect on that  
25 date, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.