

By: Madla

S.B. No. 1661

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to communications between board members, advisory committee members, and applicants for affordable housing funds.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2306.1113, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2306.1113. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS. (a) During the period beginning on the date a project application is filed and ending on the date the board makes a final decision with respect to any approval of that application, a member of the board [~~or a member of the advisory committee established under Section 2306.1112~~] may not communicate orally about the application with the following persons:

(1) the applicant or a related party, as defined by state law, including board rules, and federal law; and

(2) any person who is:

(A) active in the construction, rehabilitation, ownership, or control of the proposed project, including:

(i) a general partner or contractor; and

(ii) a principal or affiliate of a general partner or contractor; or

(B) employed as a lobbyist by the applicant or a related party.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a board member or

1 advisory committee member may communicate with a person described
2 by that subsection at any board meeting, ~~or~~ public hearing held
3 with respect to the application, or through written communication,
4 excluding electronic mail and other communications via an
5 electronic medium such as the Internet.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.