

By: Hegar

H.B. No. 2382

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to training requirements for certain chief appraisers of appraisal districts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1151, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1151.164 to read as follows:

Sec. 1151.164. CHIEF APPRAISER TRAINING PROGRAM. (a) The board shall implement a training program for newly appointed chief appraisers and shall prescribe the curriculum for the training program as provided by this section.

(b) The training program must provide the appointee with information regarding:

(1) this chapter;

(2) the programs operated by the board;

(3) the role and functions of the board;

(4) the rules of the board, with an emphasis on the rules that relate to ethical behavior;

(5) the role and functions of the chief appraiser, the appraisal district board of directors, and the appraisal review board;

(6) the importance of maintaining the independence of an appraisal office from political pressure;

(7) the importance of prompt and courteous treatment of the public;

1           (8) the finance and budgeting requirements for an  
2 appraisal district, including appropriate controls to ensure that  
3 expenditures are proper; and

4           (9) the requirements of:

5                   (A) the open meetings law, Chapter 551,  
6 Government Code;

7                   (B) the public information law, Chapter 552,  
8 Government Code;

9                   (C) the administrative procedure law, Chapter  
10 2001, Government Code;

11                   (D) other laws relating to public officials,  
12 including conflict-of-interest laws; and

13                   (E) the standards of ethics imposed by the  
14 Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

15           (c) The training program implemented by the board under this  
16 section must be provided by the board or by a provider approved by  
17 the board.

18           SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section  
19 5.042 to read as follows:

20           Sec. 5.042. REQUIRED TRAINING FOR CHIEF APPRAISERS. (a)  
21 Except as provided by this section, a person may not serve as a  
22 chief appraiser for an appraisal district unless the person has  
23 completed the course of training prescribed by Section 1151.164,  
24 Occupations Code.

25           (b) A person may serve in a temporary, provisional, or  
26 interim capacity as chief appraiser for a period of up to one year  
27 without completing the training required by this section.

1        (c) This section does not apply to a county  
2 assessor-collector who serves as chief appraiser under Section  
3 6.05(c).

4        SECTION 3. (a) The Board of Tax Professional Examiners  
5 shall implement the training program required under Section  
6 1151.164, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not later than  
7 January 1, 2006.

8        (b) A person is not required to complete the training  
9 program prescribed under Section 1151.164, Occupations Code, as  
10 added by this Act, to serve as a chief appraiser for an appraisal  
11 district until July 1, 2006.

12        (c) The change in law made by this Act by the enactment of  
13 Section 5.042, Tax Code, applies only to a chief appraiser  
14 appointed on or after July 1, 2006.

15        SECTION 4. Section 5.042, Tax Code, takes effect July 1,  
16 2006.

17        SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.