

AN ACT

relating to the exception of certain ad valorem tax appraisal information from required disclosure under the public information law.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 552, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 552.148 to read as follows:

Sec. 552.148. EXCEPTION: RECORDS OF COMPTROLLER OR APPRAISAL DISTRICT RECEIVED FROM PRIVATE ENTITY. (a) Information relating to real property sales prices, descriptions, characteristics, and other related information received from a private entity by the comptroller or the chief appraiser of an appraisal district under Chapter 6, Tax Code, is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the property owner or the owner's agent may, on request, obtain from the chief appraiser of the applicable appraisal district a copy of each item of information described by Section 41.461(a)(2), Tax Code, and a copy of each item of information that the chief appraiser took into consideration but does not plan to introduce at the hearing on the protest. In addition, the property owner or agent may, on request, obtain from the chief appraiser comparable sales data from a reasonable number of sales that is relevant to any matter to be determined by the appraisal review board at the hearing on the

1 property owner's protest. Information obtained under this
2 subsection:

3 (1) remains confidential in the possession of the
4 property owner or agent; and

5 (2) may not be disclosed or used for any purpose except
6 as evidence or argument at the hearing on the protest.

7 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a) or Section 403.304,
8 Government Code, so as to assist a property owner, a school
9 district, or an appraisal district in a protest filed under Section
10 403.303, Government Code, the property owner, the district, or an
11 agent of the property owner or district may, on request, obtain from
12 the comptroller any information, including confidential
13 information, obtained by the comptroller in connection with the
14 comptroller's finding that is being protested. Confidential
15 information obtained by a property owner, a school district, an
16 appraisal district, or an agent of the owner or district under this
17 subsection:

18 (1) remains confidential in the possession of the
19 owner, district, or agent; and

20 (2) may not be disclosed to a person who is not
21 authorized to receive or inspect the information.

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

H.B. No. 2188

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2188 was passed by the House on April 13, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2188 on May 16, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2188 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 10, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor