

By: Bonnen

H.B. No. 653

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the inclusion on the exterior of an ad valorem tax bill  
3 of a statement directing the United States Postal Service to return  
4 the bill if it is not deliverable as addressed.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 31.01(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as  
7 follows:

8 (a) Except as provided by Subsections (f) and (i-1), the  
9 assessor for each taxing unit shall prepare and mail a tax bill to  
10 each person in whose name the property is listed on the tax roll and  
11 to the person's authorized agent. The assessor shall mail tax bills  
12 by October 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable. The assessor  
13 shall mail to the state agency or institution the tax bill for any  
14 taxable property owned by the agency or institution. The agency or  
15 institution shall pay the taxes from funds appropriated for payment  
16 of the taxes or, if there are none, from funds appropriated for the  
17 administration of the agency or institution. The exterior of the  
18 tax bill must show the return address of the taxing unit. If the  
19 assessor wants the United States Postal Service to return the tax  
20 bill if it is not deliverable as addressed, the exterior of the tax  
21 bill may [~~and must~~] contain, in all capital letters, the words  
22 "RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED," or another appropriate statement  
23 directing the United States Postal Service to return the tax bill if  
24 it is not deliverable as addressed.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.