

By: Fletcher

H.B. No. 316

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 316:

By: Hilderbran

C.S.H.B. No. 316

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the designation of property tax agents.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1.111, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (k) and (l) to read as follows:

(b) The designation of an agent must be made by written authorization on a form prescribed by the comptroller under Subsection (h) and signed by the owner, a property manager authorized to designate agents for the owner, or another person authorized to act on behalf of the owner other than the person being designated as agent, and must clearly indicate that the person is authorized to act on behalf of the property owner in property tax matters relating to the property or the property owner. The designation may authorize the agent to represent the owner in all property tax matters or in specific property tax matters as identified in the designation. The designation does not take effect with respect to an appraisal district or a taxing unit participating in the appraisal district until a copy of the designation is filed with the appraisal district. Each appraisal district established for a county having a population of 500,000 or more shall implement a system that allows a designation to be signed and filed electronically.

(k) On written request by the chief appraiser, an agent who

1 electronically submits a designation of agent form shall provide
2 the chief appraiser information concerning:

3 (1) the electronic signature of the person who signed
4 the form;

5 (2) the date the person signed the form; and

6 (3) the Internet Protocol address of the computer the
7 person used to complete the form.

8 (1) A person may not knowingly make a false entry in, or
9 false alteration of, a designation of agent form that has been
10 signed as provided by Subsection (b).

11 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
12 to a designation of an agent that is made on or after the effective
13 date of this Act. A designation made before the effective date of
14 this Act is governed by the law in effect when the designation was
15 made, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.