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H.B. No. 2338

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the posting on the Internet by the county assessor-collector of information regarding ad valorem tax rates.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 26, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 26.16 to read as follows:

Sec. 26.16. POSTING OF TAX RATES ON COUNTY'S INTERNET WEBSITE. (a) The county assessor-collector for each county that maintains an Internet website shall post on the website of the county the following information for the most recent five tax years beginning with the 2012 tax year for each taxing unit all or part of the territory of which is located in the county:

(1) the adopted tax rate;

(2) the maintenance and operations rate;

(3) the debt rate;

(4) the effective tax rate;

(5) the effective maintenance and operations rate; and

(6) the rollback tax rate.

(b) Each taxing unit all or part of the territory of which is located in the county shall provide the information described by Subsection (a) pertaining to the taxing unit to the county assessor-collector annually following the adoption of a tax rate by the taxing unit for the current tax year. The chief appraiser of the appraisal district established in the county may assist the

1 county assessor-collector in identifying the taxing units required
2 to provide information to the assessor-collector.

3 (c) The information described by Subsection (a) must be
4 presented in the form of a table under the heading "Truth in
5 Taxation Summary."

6 (d) The county assessor-collector shall post immediately
7 below the table prescribed by Subsection (c) the following
8 statement:

9 "The county is providing this table of property tax rate
10 information as a service to the residents of the county. Each
11 individual taxing unit is responsible for calculating the property
12 tax rates listed in this table pertaining to that taxing unit and
13 providing that information to the county.

14 "The adopted tax rate is the tax rate adopted by the governing
15 body of a taxing unit.

16 "The maintenance and operations rate is the component of the
17 adopted tax rate of a taxing unit that will impose the amount of
18 taxes needed to fund maintenance and operation expenditures of the
19 unit for the following year.

20 "The debt rate is the component of the adopted tax rate of a
21 taxing unit that will impose the amount of taxes needed to fund the
22 unit's debt service for the following year.

23 "The effective tax rate is the tax rate that would generate
24 the same amount of revenue in the current tax year as was generated
25 by a taxing unit's adopted tax rate in the preceding tax year from
26 property that is taxable in both the current tax year and the
27 preceding tax year.

1 "The effective maintenance and operations rate is the tax
2 rate that would generate the same amount of revenue for maintenance
3 and operations in the current tax year as was generated by a taxing
4 unit's maintenance and operations rate in the preceding tax year
5 from property that is taxable in both the current tax year and the
6 preceding tax year.

7 "The rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate a taxing unit
8 may adopt before requiring voter approval at an election. In the
9 case of a taxing unit other than a school district, the voters by
10 petition may require that a rollback election be held if the unit
11 adopts a tax rate in excess of the unit's rollback tax rate. In the
12 case of a school district, an election will automatically be held if
13 the district wishes to adopt a tax rate in excess of the district's
14 rollback tax rate."

15 (e) The comptroller by rule shall prescribe the manner in
16 which the information described by this section is required to be
17 presented.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.