

By: Murphy

H.B. No. 1250

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the required wage for jobs created for the purpose of eligibility for a limitation on appraised value of property for ad valorem tax purposes under the Texas Economic Development Act.

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

SECTION 1. Section 313.021, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subdivisions (3) and (5) and adding Subdivision (6) to read as follows:

(3) "Qualifying job" means a permanent full-time job that:

(A) requires at least 1,600 hours of work a year;

(B) is not transferred from one area in this state to another area in this state;

(C) is not created to replace a previous employee;

(D) is covered by a group health benefit plan for which the business offers to pay at least 80 percent of the premiums or other charges assessed for employee-only coverage under the plan, regardless of whether an employee may voluntarily waive the coverage; and

(E) pays at least 110 percent of the lesser of:

(i) the state median annual wage for manufacturing jobs in the state; or

(ii) the county average annual [~~weekly~~]

1 wage for manufacturing jobs in the county where the job is located.

2 (F) In determining whether a property owner has
3 created the number of qualifying jobs required under this chapter,
4 operations, services and other related jobs created in connection
5 with the project, including those employed by third parties under
6 contract, may satisfy the minimum qualifying jobs requirement for
7 the project if the Texas Workforce Commission determines that the
8 cumulative economic benefits to the state of these jobs is the same
9 or greater than that associated with the minimum number of
10 qualified jobs required to be created under this chapter. The Texas
11 Workforce Commission may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

12 (5) "County average annual [~~weekly~~] wage for
13 manufacturing jobs" and "county average annual wage for all jobs"
14 mean [~~means~~]:

15 (A) the average weekly wage in a county for
16 manufacturing jobs or for all jobs, as applicable, during the most
17 recent four quarterly periods for which data is available at the
18 time a person submits an application for a limitation on appraised
19 value under this subchapter, as computed by the Texas Workforce
20 Commission, multiplied by 52; or

21 (B) the average weekly wage for manufacturing
22 jobs or for all jobs, as applicable, in the region designated for
23 the regional planning commission, council of governments, or
24 similar regional planning agency created under Chapter 391, Local
25 Government Code, in which the county is located during the most
26 recent four quarterly periods for which data is available at the
27 time a person submits an application for a limitation on appraised

1 value under this subchapter, as computed by the Texas Workforce
2 Commission, multiplied by 52.

3 (6) "State median annual wage for manufacturing jobs"
4 and "state median annual wage for all jobs" mean the median annual
5 wage in the state for manufacturing jobs or for all jobs, as
6 applicable, during the most recent period for which data is
7 available at the time a person submits an application for a
8 limitation on appraised value under this subchapter, as computed by
9 the Texas Workforce Commission.

10 SECTION 2. Section 313.024(d), Tax Code, is amended to read
11 as follows:

12 (d) To be eligible for a limitation on appraised value under
13 this subchapter, the property owner must create the required number
14 of new qualifying jobs as defined by Section 313.021(3) and the
15 average annual [~~weekly~~] wage for all jobs created by the owner that
16 are not qualifying jobs must exceed the lesser of:

17 (1) the state median annual wage for all jobs in the
18 state; or

19 (2) the county average annual [~~weekly~~] wage for all
20 jobs in the county where the jobs are located.

21 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
22 an agreement entered into under Chapter 313, Tax Code, on or after
23 the effective date of this Act. An agreement entered into under
24 that chapter before the effective date of this Act is governed by
25 the law in effect on the date the agreement was entered into, and
26 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.