

By: Murphy

H.B. No. 2480

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the contents of a notice of appraised value sent to a property owner by the chief appraiser of an appraisal district.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.19, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (i) and adding Subsection (b-3) to read as follows:

(b) The chief appraiser shall separate real from personal property and include in the notice for each:

(1) a list of the taxing units in which the property is taxable;

(2) the appraised value of the property in the preceding year;

(3) the taxable value of the property in the preceding year for each taxing unit taxing the property;

(4) the tax rate adopted in the preceding year by each taxing unit taxing the property;

(5) the appraised value of the property for the current year and the kind and amount of each partial exemption, if any, approved by each taxing unit taxing the property for the current year;

(6) an estimate of the tax savings for the current year resulting from each partial exemption calculated on the basis of the tax rate adopted in the preceding year by each taxing unit

1 taxing the property;

2 (7) an estimate of the tax savings resulting from the
3 application of a limitation on taxes provided by Section 11.26 or
4 11.261, if applicable, in the current year calculated on the basis
5 of the tax rate adopted by the applicable taxing unit in the
6 preceding year;

7 (8) [~~(5)~~ if the appraised value is greater than it
8 was in the preceding year, the amount of tax that would be imposed
9 on the property on the basis of the tax rate for the preceding year;

10 [~~(6)~~] in italic typeface, the following
11 statement: "The Texas Legislature does not set the amount of your
12 local taxes. Your property tax burden is decided by your locally
13 elected officials, and all inquiries concerning your taxes should
14 be directed to those officials";

15 (9) [~~(7)~~] a detailed explanation of the time and
16 procedure for protesting the value;

17 (10) in bold 12-point typeface on the front of the
18 notice, [~~(8)~~] the date and place the appraisal review board will
19 begin hearing protests and the deadlines for filing a notice of
20 protest as provided by Sections 41.44(a), (b), and (b-1); [~~and~~]

21 (11) [~~(9)~~] a statement [~~brief explanation~~] that the
22 [~~governing body of each taxing unit decides whether or not taxes on~~
23 ~~the property will increase and the]~~ appraisal district only
24 determines the value of the property; and

25 (12) an explanation of the method for estimating the
26 taxes that may be imposed by each taxing unit based on the value of
27 the property for the current year and the tax rate adopted in the

1 preceding year by each taxing unit taxing the property as shown in
2 the notice.

3 (b-3) The explanation required by Subsection (b)(12) must
4 describe in detail the method for applying the tax rate adopted in
5 the preceding year by each taxing unit taxing the property to the
6 appraised value of the property, less each applicable partial
7 exemption as shown in the notice. An example of the method for
8 applying the tax rate to the appraised value, less applicable
9 partial exemptions, must be included so that the property owner may
10 calculate a reasonable estimate of the amount of taxes that would be
11 imposed on the property by each taxing unit for the current year if
12 the taxing unit were to adopt the same tax rate as the unit adopted
13 in the preceding year.

14 (i) Delivery with a notice required by Subsection (a) or (g)
15 of a copy of the pamphlet published by the comptroller under Section
16 5.06 or a copy of the notice published by the chief appraiser under
17 Section 41.70 is sufficient to comply with the requirement that the
18 notice include the information specified by Subsection (b)(9)
19 [~~(b)(7)~~] or (g)(3), as applicable.

20 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
21 a notice of appraised value for a tax year beginning on or after the
22 effective date of this Act. A notice of appraised value for a tax
23 year beginning before the effective date of this Act is governed by
24 the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act,
25 and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

26 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2016.