By: Nelson S.B. No. 21

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to the system for protesting or appealing certain ad
- 3 valorem tax determinations; authorizing a fee.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 1.085(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as 6 follows:
- 7 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision in this title and
- 8 except as provided by this section, any notice, rendition,
- 9 application form, or completed application, or information
- 10 requested under Section 41.461(a)(2), that is required or permitted
- 11 by this title to be delivered between a chief appraiser, an
- 12 appraisal district, an appraisal review board, or any combination
- 13 of those persons and a property owner or [between a chief appraiser,
- 14 an appraisal district, an appraisal review board, or any
- 15 combination of those persons and] a person designated by a property
- 16 owner under Section 1.111(f) may be delivered in an electronic
- 17 format if the chief appraiser and the property owner or person
- 18 designated by the owner agree under this section.
- 19 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section
- 20 5.01 to read as follows:
- Sec. 5.01. PROPERTY TAX ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY BOARD.
- 22 (a) The comptroller shall appoint the property tax administration
- 23 advisory board to advise the comptroller with respect to the
- 24 division or divisions within the office of the comptroller with

- 1 primary responsibility for state administration of property
- 2 taxation and state oversight of appraisal districts and local tax
- 3 offices. The advisory board may make recommendations to the
- 4 comptroller regarding improving the effectiveness and efficiency
- 5 of the property tax system, best practices, and complaint
- 6 resolution procedures. The comptroller shall post the
- 7 recommendations of the advisory board on the comptroller's Internet
- 8 website.
- 9 (b) The advisory board is composed of at least six members
- 10 appointed by the comptroller. The members of the board should
- 11 <u>include:</u>
- 12 (1) representatives of property tax payers, appraisal
- 13 districts, and school districts; and
- 14 (2) a person who has knowledge or experience in
- 15 <u>conducting ratio studies.</u>
- 16 (c) The members of the advisory board serve at the pleasure
- 17 of the comptroller.
- 18 (d) Any advice to the comptroller relating to a matter
- 19 described by Subsection (a) that is provided by a member of the
- 20 advisory board must be provided at a meeting called by the
- 21 comptroller.
- (e) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
- 23 <u>advisory board.</u>
- SECTION 3. Sections 5.041(b), (c), and (e-1), Tax Code, are
- 25 amended to read as follows:
- 26 (b) A member of the appraisal review board established for
- 27 an appraisal district must complete the course established under

- 1 Subsection (a). The course must provide at least eight hours of
- 2 classroom training and education. A member of the appraisal review
- 3 board may not participate in a hearing conducted by the board unless
- 4 the person has completed the course established under Subsection
- 5 (a) and received a certificate of course completion.
- 6 (c) The comptroller may contract with service providers to
- 7 assist with the duties imposed under Subsection (a), but the course
- 8 required may not be provided by an appraisal district, the chief
- 9 appraiser or another employee of an appraisal district, a member of
- 10 the board of directors of an appraisal district, a member of an
- 11 appraisal review board, or a taxing unit. The comptroller may
- 12 assess a fee to recover a portion of the costs incurred for the
- 13 training course, but the fee may not exceed \$50 per person trained.
- 14 If the training is provided to an individual other than a member of
- 15 <u>an appraisal review board, the comptroller may assess a fee not to</u>
- 16 <u>exceed \$50 per person trained.</u>
- 17 (e-1) In addition to the course established under
- 18 Subsection (a), the comptroller shall approve curricula and provide
- 19 materials for use in a continuing education course for members of an
- 20 appraisal review board. The course must provide at least four hours
- 21 of classroom training and education. The curricula and materials
- 22 must include information regarding:
- 23 (1) the cost, income, and market data comparison
- 24 methods of appraising property;
- 25 (2) the appraisal of business personal property;
- 26 (3) the determination of capitalization rates for
- 27 property appraisal purposes;

- 1 (4) the duties of an appraisal review board;
- 2 (5) the requirements regarding the independence of an
- 3 appraisal review board from the board of directors and the chief
- 4 appraiser and other employees of the appraisal district;
- 5 (6) the prohibitions against ex parte communications
- 6 applicable to appraisal review board members;
- 7 (7) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal
- 8 Practice;
- 9 (8) the duty of the appraisal district to substantiate
- 10 the district's determination of the value of property;
- 11 (9) the requirements regarding the equal and uniform
- 12 appraisal of property;
- 13 (10) the right of a property owner to protest the
- 14 appraisal of the property as provided by Chapter 41; and
- 15 (11) a detailed explanation of each of the actions
- 16 described by Sections 25.25, 41.41(a), 41.411, 41.412, 41.413,
- 17 41.42, and 41.43 so that members are fully aware of each of the
- 18 grounds on which a property appraisal can be appealed.
- 19 SECTION 4. Chapter 5, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section
- 20 5.043 to read as follows:
- 21 Sec. 5.043. TRAINING OF ARBITRATORS. (a) This section
- 22 applies only to persons who have agreed to serve as arbitrators
- 23 <u>under Chapter 41A.</u>
- 24 (b) The comptroller shall:
- 25 (1) approve curricula and provide an arbitration
- 26 manual and other materials for use in training and educating
- 27 arbitrators;

- 1 (2) make all materials for use in training and
- 2 educating arbitrators freely available online; and
- 3 (3) establish and supervise a training program on
- 4 property tax law for the training and education of arbitrators.
- 5 (c) The training program must:
- 6 (1) emphasize the requirements regarding the equal and
- 7 uniform appraisal of property; and
- 8 (2) be at least four hours in length.
- 9 (d) The training program may be provided online. The
- 10 comptroller by rule may prescribe the manner by which the
- 11 comptroller may verify that a person taking the training program
- 12 online has taken and completed the program.
- 13 (e) The comptroller may contract with service providers to
- 14 assist with the duties imposed under Subsection (b), but the
- 15 training program may not be provided by an appraisal district, the
- 16 chief appraiser or another employee of an appraisal district, a
- 17 member of the board of directors of an appraisal district, a member
- 18 of an appraisal review board, or a taxing unit. The comptroller may
- 19 assess a fee to recover a portion of the costs incurred for the
- 20 training program, but the fee may not exceed \$50 for each person
- 21 trained.
- 22 (f) The comptroller shall prepare an arbitration manual for
- 23 use in the training program. The manual shall be updated regularly
- 24 and may be revised on request, in writing, to the comptroller. The
- 25 revised language must be approved by the unanimous agreement of a
- 26 committee selected by the comptroller and representing, equally,
- 27 taxpayers and chief appraisers. The person requesting the revision

- 1 must pay the costs of mediation if the comptroller determines that
- 2 mediation is required.
- 3 SECTION 5. Section 5.102(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 4 follows:
- 5 (a) At least once every two years, the comptroller shall
- 6 review the governance of each appraisal district, taxpayer
- 7 assistance provided, and the operating and appraisal standards,
- 8 procedures, and methodology used by each appraisal district, to
- 9 determine compliance with generally accepted standards,
- 10 procedures, and methodology. After consultation with the property
- 11 <u>tax administration</u> advisory <u>board</u> [committee created under Section
- 12 403.302, Government Code], the comptroller by rule may establish
- 13 procedures and standards for conducting and scoring the review.
- 14 SECTION 6. Chapter 5, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section
- 15 5.104 to read as follows:
- Sec. 5.104. APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD SURVEY; REPORT. (a) The
- 17 comptroller shall prepare:
- 18 (1) an appraisal review board survey form that allows
- 19 an individual described by Subsection (b) to submit comments and
- 20 suggestions to the comptroller regarding an appraisal review board;
- 21 <u>and</u>
- 22 (2) instructions for completing and submitting the
- 23 <u>form.</u>
- 24 (b) The following individuals may complete and submit a
- 25 survey form under this section:
- 26 (1) a property owner who files a motion under Section
- 27 25.25 to correct the appraisal roll or a protest under Chapter 41;

1	(2) the designated agent of the property owner; or
2	(3) a designated representative of the appraisal
3	district in which the motion or protest is filed who attends the
4	hearing on the motion or protest.
5	(c) The survey form must allow an individual to submit
6	comments and suggestions regarding:
7	(1) the matters listed in Section 5.103(b); and
8	(2) any other matter related to the fairness and
9	efficiency of the appraisal review board.
10	(d) An appraisal district must provide the survey form and
11	the instructions for completing and submitting the form to each
12	property owner or designated agent of the owner:
13	(1) at or before each hearing conducted under Section
14	25.25 or Chapter 41 by the appraisal review board established for
15	the appraisal district or by a panel of the board; and
16	(2) with each order under Section 25.25 or 41.47
17	determining a motion or protest, as applicable, delivered by the
18	board or by a panel of the board.
19	(e) An individual who elects to submit the survey form must
20	submit the form to the comptroller as provided by this section. An
21	appraisal district may not accept a survey form submitted under
22	this section. An individual may submit only one survey form for
23	each motion or protest.
24	(f) The comptroller shall allow an individual to submit a
25	survey form to the comptroller in the following manner:
26	(1) in person;
27	(2) by mail;

- 1 (3) by electronic mail; or
- 2 (4) through a web page on the comptroller's Internet
- 3 website that allows the individual to complete and submit the form.
- 4 (g) An appraisal district may not require a property owner
- 5 or the designated agent of the owner to complete a survey form at
- 6 the appraisal office in order to be permitted to submit the form to
- 7 the comptroller.
- 8 (h) A property owner or the designated agent of the owner
- 9 who elects to submit a survey form provided to the owner or agent
- 10 under Subsection (d)(1) or (2) must submit the form not later than
- 11 the earlier of the 45th day after the date:
- 12 (1) the form is sent to the owner or agent under
- 13 Subsection (d)(2); or
- 14 (2) the matter that is the subject of the protest is
- 15 finally resolved if the protest is settled or otherwise resolved in
- 16 a manner that does not require the issuance of an order described by
- 17 Subsection (d)(2).
- 18 (i) A designated representative of an appraisal district
- 19 who elects to submit a survey form following a hearing conducted
- 20 under Section 25.25 or Chapter 41 must submit the form not later
- 21 than the 45th day after the date the form is sent to the property
- 22 owner or designated agent of the owner under Subsection (d)(2)
- 23 <u>following that hearing.</u>
- 24 (j) The comptroller shall issue an annual report that
- 25 summarizes the information included in the survey forms submitted
- 26 during the preceding year. The report may not disclose the identity
- 27 of an individual who submitted a survey form.

- (k) The comptroller may adopt rules necessary to implement

 this section.

 SECTION 7. Sections 6.412(a) and (d), Tax Code, are amended

 to read as follows:

 (a) An individual is ineligible to serve on an appraisal

 review board if the individual:
- 7 (1)is related within the second degree consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, 8 Government Code, to an individual who is engaged in the business of 9 10 appraising property for compensation for use in proceedings under this title or of representing property owners for compensation in 11 12 proceedings under this title in the appraisal district for which the appraisal review board is established; 13
- (2) owns property on which delinquent taxes have been owed to a taxing unit for more than 60 days after the date the individual knew or should have known of the delinquency unless:
- (A) the delinquent taxes and any penalties and interest are being paid under an installment payment agreement under Section 33.02; or
- 20 (B) a suit to collect the delinquent taxes is 21 deferred or abated under Section 33.06 or 33.065; or
- 22 (3) is related within the third degree by 23 consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity, as 24 determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, to a member of:
- 25 <u>(A)</u> the appraisal district's board of directors<u>;</u> 26 or
- 27 (B) the appraisal review board.

- 1 (d) A person is ineligible to serve on the appraisal review
- 2 board of an appraisal district established for a county described
- 3 by Section 6.41(d-1) [having a population of more than 100,000] if
- 4 the person:
- 5 (1) is a former member of the board of directors,
- 6 former officer, or former employee of the appraisal district;
- 7 (2) served as a member of the governing body or officer
- 8 of a taxing unit for which the appraisal district appraises
- 9 property, until the fourth anniversary of the date the person
- 10 ceased to be a member or officer; [or]
- 11 (3) appeared before the appraisal review board for
- 12 compensation during the two-year period preceding the date the
- 13 person is appointed; or
- 14 (4) served for all or part of three previous terms as a
- 15 board member or auxiliary board member on the appraisal review
- 16 board.
- 17 SECTION 8. Section 6.42, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 18 Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:
- 19 (a) A majority of the appraisal review board constitutes a
- 20 quorum. The local administrative district judge under Subchapter
- 21 D, Chapter 74, Government Code, in the county in which [board of
- 22 <u>directors of</u>] the appraisal district is established [by resolution]
- 23 shall select a chairman and a secretary from among the members of
- 24 the appraisal review board. The judge [board of directors of the
- 25 appraisal district] is encouraged to select as chairman [of the
- 26 appraisal review board] a member of the appraisal review board, if
- 27 any, who has a background in law and property appraisal.

- 1 (d) The concurrence of a majority of the members of the
- 2 appraisal review board or a panel of the board present at a meeting
- 3 of the board or panel is sufficient for a recommendation,
- 4 determination, decision, or other action by the board or panel, and
- 5 the concurrence of more than a majority of the members of the board
- 6 or panel may not be required.
- 7 SECTION 9. Section 25.25(c), Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 8 follows:
- 9 (c) The appraisal review board, on motion of the chief
- 10 appraiser or of a property owner, may direct by written order
- 11 changes in the appraisal roll for any of the five preceding years to
- 12 correct:
- 13 (1) clerical errors that affect a property owner's
- 14 liability for a tax imposed in that tax year;
- 15 (2) multiple appraisals of a property in that tax
- 16 year;
- 17 (3) the inclusion of property that does not exist in
- 18 the form or at the location described in the appraisal roll; [or]
- 19 (4) an error in which property is shown as owned by a
- 20 person who did not own the property on January 1 of that tax year; or
- 21 (5) an error in the square footage of a property
- 22 described in the appraisal roll.
- SECTION 10. Section 41.46(a), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 24 as follows:
- 25 (a) The appraisal review board before which a protest
- 26 hearing is scheduled shall deliver written notice to the property
- 27 owner initiating a protest of the date, time, [and] place, and

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- 1 <u>subject matter of</u> [fixed for] the hearing on the protest and of the
- 2 property owner's entitlement to a postponement of the hearing as
- 3 provided by Section 41.45 unless the property owner waives in
- 4 writing notice of the hearing. The board shall deliver the notice
- 5 not later than the 15th day before the date of the hearing.
- 6 SECTION 11. Section 41.461, Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 7 follows:
- 8 Sec. 41.461. NOTICE OF CERTAIN MATTERS BEFORE HEARING;
- 9 DELIVERY OF REQUESTED INFORMATION. (a) At least 14 days before the
- 10 $\underline{\text{first scheduled}}$ [$\underline{\textbf{a}}$] hearing on a protest, the chief appraiser
- 11 shall:
- 12 (1) deliver a copy of the pamphlet prepared by the
- 13 comptroller under Section 5.06 $[\frac{5.06(a)}{a}]$ to the property owner
- 14 initiating the protest if the owner is representing himself, or to
- 15 an agent representing the owner if requested by the agent;
- 16 (2) inform the property owner that the owner or the
- 17 agent of the owner is entitled on request to [may inspect and may
- 18 obtain] a copy of the data, schedules, formulas, and all other
- 19 information the chief appraiser will [plans to] introduce at the
- 20 hearing to establish any matter at issue; and
- 21 (3) deliver a copy of the hearing procedures
- 22 established by the appraisal review board under Section 41.66 to
- 23 the property owner.
- 24 (b) The chief appraiser may not charge a property owner or
- 25 the designated agent of the owner for copies provided to the [an]
- 26 owner or designated agent under this section, regardless of the
- 27 manner in which the copies are prepared or delivered [may not exceed

- 1 the charge for copies of public information as provided under
- 2 Subchapter F, Chapter 552, Government Code, except:
- 3 [(1) the total charge for copies provided in
- 4 connection with a protest of the appraisal of residential property
- 5 may not exceed \$15 for each residence; and
- 6 [(2) the total charge for copies provided in
- 7 connection with a protest of the appraisal of a single unit of
- 8 property subject to appraisal, other than residential property, may
- 9 $\frac{\text{not exceed } \$25}{\text{odd}}$].
- 10 (c) A chief appraiser must deliver information requested by
- 11 a property owner or the agent of the owner under Subsection (a)(2):
- 12 (1) by regular first-class mail;
- 13 (2) in an electronic format as provided by an
- 14 agreement under Section 1.085; or
- 15 (3) subject to Subsection (d), by referring the
- 16 property owner or the agent of the owner to the exact Internet
- 17 location or uniform resource locator (URL) address on an Internet
- 18 website maintained by the appraisal district on which the requested
- 19 information is identifiable and readily available.
- 20 (d) If a chief appraiser provides a property owner or the
- 21 agent of the owner the Internet location or address of information
- 22 under Subsection (c)(3), the notice must contain a statement in a
- 23 conspicuous font that clearly indicates that the property owner or
- 24 the agent of the owner may on request receive the information by
- 25 regular first-class mail. On request by a property owner or the
- 26 agent of the owner, the chief appraiser must provide the
- 27 information by regular first-class mail.

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- 1 SECTION 12. Section 41.47, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 2 Subsections (c-2) and (f) and amending Subsections (d) and (e) to
- 3 read as follows:
- 4 (c-2) The board may not determine the appraised value of the
- 5 property that is the subject of a protest to be an amount greater
- 6 than the appraised value of the property as shown in the appraisal
- 7 records submitted to the board by the chief appraiser under Section
- 8 <u>25.22 or 25.23.</u>
- 9 (d) The board shall deliver by certified mail:
- 10 <u>(1)</u> a notice of issuance of the order and a copy of the
- 11 order to the property owner and the chief appraiser; and
- 12 (2) a copy of the appraisal review board survey form
- 13 prepared under Section 5.104 and instructions for completing and
- 14 submitting the form to the property owner.
- 15 (e) The notice of the issuance of the order must contain a
- 16 prominently printed statement in upper-case bold lettering
- 17 informing the property owner in clear and concise language of the
- 18 property owner's right to appeal the <u>or</u>der of the board [board's
- 19 decision] to district court. The statement must describe the
- 20 deadline prescribed by Section 42.06(a) [of this code] for filing a
- 21 written notice of appeal $[\tau]$ and the deadline prescribed by Section
- 22 42.21(a) [of this code] for filing the petition for review with the
- 23 district court.
- 24 (f) The appraisal review board shall take the actions
- 25 required by Subsections (a) and (d) not later than the 15th day
- 26 after the date the hearing on the protest is concluded.
- 27 SECTION 13. Section 41.66, Tax Code, is amended by amending

- 1 Subsections (h), (i), and (j) and adding Subsections (j-1) and (p)
- 2 to read as follows:
- 3 (h) The appraisal review board shall postpone a hearing on a
- 4 protest if the property owner or the designated agent of the owner
- 5 requests additional time to prepare for the hearing and establishes
- 6 to the board that the chief appraiser failed to comply with Section
- 7 41.461. The board is not required to postpone a hearing more than
- 8 one time under this subsection.
- 9 (i) A hearing on a protest filed by a property owner or the
- 10 designated agent of the owner [who is not represented by an agent
- 11 designated under Section 1.111] shall be set for a time and date
- 12 certain. If the hearing is not commenced within two hours of the
- 13 time set for the hearing, the appraisal review board shall postpone
- 14 the hearing on the request of the property owner or the designated
- 15 agent of the owner.
- (j) On the request of a property owner or $\frac{\text{the}}{\text{c}}$ [a] designated
- 17 agent of the owner, an appraisal review board shall schedule
- 18 hearings on protests concerning up to 20 designated properties to
- 19 be held consecutively on the same day. The designated properties
- 20 must be identified in the same notice of protest, and the notice
- 21 must contain in boldfaced type the statement "request for same-day
- 22 protest hearings." A property owner or the designated agent of the
- 23 <u>owner</u> may [not] file more than one request under this subsection
- 24 with the appraisal review board in the same tax year. The appraisal
- 25 review board may schedule hearings on protests concerning more than
- 26 20 properties filed by the same property owner or the designated
- 27 agent of the owner and may use different panels to conduct the

- 1 hearings based on the board's customary scheduling. The appraisal
- review board may follow the practices customarily used by the board 2
- 3 in the scheduling of hearings under this subsection.
- 4 (j-1) An appraisal review board may schedule the hearings on all protests filed by a property owner or the designated agent of 5 the owner to be held consecutively. The notice of the hearings must 6 state the date and time that the first hearing will begin, state the 7 date the last hearing will end, and list the order in which the 8
- hearings will be held. The order of the hearings listed in the 9
- 10 notice may not be changed without the agreement of the property
- owner or the designated agent of the owner, the chief appraiser, and 11
- 12 the appraisal review board. The board may not reschedule a hearing
- for which notice is given under this subsection to a date earlier 13
- than the seventh day after the date the last hearing was scheduled 14
- to end unless agreed to by the property owner or the designated 15
- agent of the owner, the chief appraiser, and the appraisal review 16
- board. Unless agreed to by the parties, the board must provide 17 written notice of the date and time of the rescheduled hearing to
- 19 the property owner or the designated agent of the owner not later
- than the seventh day before the date of the hearing. 20
- 21 (p) At the end of a hearing on a protest, the appraisal
- 22 review board shall provide the property owner or the designated
- agent of the owner one or more documents indicating that the members 23
- of the board hearing the protest signed the affidavit required by 24
- 25 Subsection (g).
- 26 SECTION 14. Section 41.67(d), Tax Code, is amended to read
- as follows: 27

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1 (d) Information that was previously requested under Section 41.461 by the protesting party that was not <u>delivered</u> [made 2 3 available] to the protesting party at least 14 days before the first scheduled [or postponed] hearing may not be used or offered in any 4 5 form as evidence in the hearing, including as a document or through argument or testimony. 6 7 SECTION 15. Section 41.71, Tax Code, is amended to read as 8 follows: Sec. 41.71. EVENING 9 AND WEEKEND HEARINGS. (a) An 10 appraisal review board by rule shall provide for hearings on protests [in the evening or] on a Saturday or after 5 p.m. on a 11 12 weekday [Sunday]. 13 (b) The board may not schedule: 14 (1) the first hearing on a protest held on a weekday 15 evening to begin after 7 p.m.; or 16 (2) a hearing on a protest on a Sunday. 17 SECTION 16. Section 41A.06(b), Tax Code, effective as September 1, 2017, is amended to read as follows: 18 19 To initially qualify to serve as an arbitrator under this chapter, a person must: 20 21 (1) meet the following requirements, as applicable: be licensed as an attorney in this state; or 22 (A) 23 (B) have: 24 (i) completed at least 30 hours of training

in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution procedures from a

university, college, or legal or real estate trade association; and

licensed

or

(ii) been

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- 1 continuously during the five years preceding the date the person
- 2 agrees to serve as an arbitrator as:
- 3 (a) a real estate broker or sales
- 4 agent under Chapter 1101, Occupations Code;
- 5 (b) a real estate appraiser under
- 6 Chapter 1103, Occupations Code; or
- 7 (c) a certified public accountant
- 8 under Chapter 901, Occupations Code; [and]
- 9 (2) complete the course for training and education of
- 10 appraisal review board members established under Section 5.041 and
- 11 be issued a certificate indicating course completion;
- 12 (3) complete the training program on property tax law
- 13 for the training and education of arbitrators established under
- 14 Section 5.043; and
- 15 $\underline{(4)}$ agree to conduct an arbitration for a fee that is
- 16 not more than:
- 17 (A) \$400, if the property qualifies as the
- 18 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 19 or market value, as applicable, of the property is \$500,000 or less,
- 20 as determined by the order;
- 21 (B) \$450, if the property qualifies as the
- 22 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 23 or market value, as applicable, of the property is more than
- 24 \$500,000, as determined by the order;
- (C) \$450, if the property does not qualify as the
- 26 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 27 or market value, as applicable, of the property is \$1 million or

- 1 less, as determined by the order;
- 2 (D) \$750, if the property does not qualify as the
- 3 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 4 or market value, as applicable, of the property is more than \$1
- 5 million but not more than \$2 million, as determined by the order;
- 6 (E) \$1,000, if the property does not qualify as
- 7 the owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the
- 8 appraised or market value, as applicable, of the property is more
- 9 than \$2 million but not more than \$3 million, as determined by the
- 10 order; or
- 11 (F) \$1,500, if the property does not qualify as
- 12 the owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the
- 13 appraised or market value, as applicable, of the property is more
- 14 than \$3 million but not more than \$5 million, as determined by the
- 15 order.
- SECTION 17. Section 41A.061(b), Tax Code, is amended to
- 17 read as follows:
- 18 (b) To renew the person's agreement to serve as an
- 19 arbitrator, the person must:
- 20 (1) file a renewal application with the comptroller at
- 21 the time and in the manner prescribed by the comptroller;
- 22 (2) continue to meet the requirements provided by
- 23 Sections 41A.06(b)(1) and (4) [Section 41A.06(b)]; and
- 24 (3) during the preceding two years have completed at
- 25 least eight hours of continuing education in arbitration and
- 26 alternative dispute resolution procedures offered by a university,
- 27 college, real estate trade association, or legal association.

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- 1 SECTION 18. Section 41A.09(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 2 as follows:
- 3 (b) An award under this section:
- 4 (1) must include a determination of the appraised or 5 market value, as applicable, of the property that is the subject of 6 the appeal;
- 7 (2) may include any remedy or relief a court may order 8 under Chapter 42 in an appeal relating to the appraised or market 9 value of property;
- 10 (3) shall specify the arbitrator's fee, which may not exceed the amount provided by Section 41A.06(b)(4) [41A.06(b)(2)];
- 12 (4) is final and may not be appealed except as 13 permitted under Section 171.088, Civil Practice and Remedies Code,
- 14 for an award subject to that section; and
- 15 (5) may be enforced in the manner provided by 16 Subchapter D, Chapter 171, Civil Practice and Remedies Code.
- 17 SECTION 19. Section 403.302(o), Government Code, is amended 18 to read as follows:
- 19 (o) The comptroller shall adopt rules governing the conduct
 20 of the study after consultation with the <u>comptroller's property tax</u>
 21 <u>administration advisory board</u> [Comptroller's Property Value Study
 22 Advisory Committee].
- 23 SECTION 20. The following provisions are repealed:
- 24 (1) Sections 403.302(m-1) and (n), Government Code;
- 25 (2) Sections 5.103(e) and (f), Tax Code;
- 26 (3) Section 6.412(e), Tax Code; and
- 27 (4) Section 41A.06(c), Tax Code.

- S.B. No. 21
- 1 SECTION 21. Section 5.041, Tax Code, as amended by this Act,
- 2 applies only to an appraisal review board member appointed to serve
- 3 a term of office that begins on or after the effective date of this
- 4 Act.
- 5 SECTION 22. The comptroller shall implement Section 5.043,
- 6 Tax Code, as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after the
- 7 effective date of this Act.
- 8 SECTION 23. The comptroller shall prepare and make
- 9 available the survey form and instructions for completing and
- 10 submitting the form required by Section 5.104, Tax Code, as added by
- 11 this Act, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this
- 12 Act. An appraisal district is not required to provide the survey
- 13 form or instructions under a requirement of that section until the
- 14 form and instructions are prepared and made available by the
- 15 comptroller.
- SECTION 24. Section 6.412, Tax Code, as amended by this Act,
- 17 does not affect the eligibility of a person serving on an appraisal
- 18 review board immediately before the effective date of this Act to
- 19 continue to serve on the board for the term to which the member was
- 20 appointed.
- 21 SECTION 25. Section 6.42(d), Tax Code, as added by this Act,
- 22 applies only to a recommendation, determination, decision, or other
- 23 action by an appraisal review board or a panel of such a board on or
- 24 after the effective date of this Act. A recommendation,
- 25 determination, decision, or other action by an appraisal review
- 26 board or a panel of such a board before the effective date of this
- 27 Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately before that

- 1 date, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.
- 2 SECTION 26. Section 25.25(c), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 3 Act, applies only to a motion to correct an appraisal roll filed on
- 4 or after the effective date of this Act. A motion to correct an
- 5 appraisal roll filed before the effective date of this Act is
- 6 governed by the law in effect on the date the motion was filed, and
- 7 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.
- 8 SECTION 27. The changes in law made by this Act to Chapter
- 9 41, Tax Code, apply only to a protest for which the notice of
- 10 protest was filed by a property owner or the designated agent of the
- 11 owner with the appraisal review board established for an appraisal
- 12 district on or after the effective date of this Act.
- SECTION 28. Section 41A.09(b), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 14 Act, applies only to a request for binding arbitration under
- 15 Chapter 41A, Tax Code, that is filed on or after the effective date
- 16 of this Act. A request for binding arbitration under Chapter 41A,
- 17 Tax Code, that is filed before the effective date of this Act is
- 18 governed by the law in effect on the date the request is filed, and
- 19 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.
- 20 SECTION 29. The changes in law made by this Act in the
- 21 qualifications of persons serving as arbitrators in binding
- 22 arbitrations of appeals of appraisal review board orders do not
- 23 affect the entitlement of a person serving as an arbitrator
- 24 immediately before the effective date of this Act to continue to
- 25 serve as an arbitrator and to conduct hearings on arbitrations
- 26 until the person is required to renew the person's agreement with
- 27 the comptroller to serve as an arbitrator. The changes in law apply

- 1 only to a person who initially qualifies to serve as an arbitrator
- 2 or who renews the person's agreement with the comptroller to serve
- 3 as an arbitrator on or after the effective date of this Act. This
- 4 Act does not prohibit a person who is serving as an arbitrator on
- 5 the effective date of this Act from renewing the person's agreement
- 6 with the comptroller to serve as an arbitrator if the person has the
- 7 qualifications required for an arbitrator under the Tax Code as
- 8 amended by this Act.
- 9 SECTION 30. This Act takes effect January 1, 2018.