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H.B. No. 513

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the reappraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of property damaged in a disaster.

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

SECTION 1. Section 23.02, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 23.02. REAPPRAISAL OF PROPERTY DAMAGED IN DISASTER AREA. (a) The chief appraiser of an appraisal district that appraises property for ~~[governing body of]~~ a taxing unit that is located partly or entirely inside an area declared to be a disaster area by the governor shall reappraise ~~[may authorize reappraisal of]~~ all property that the Federal Emergency Management Agency or its successor agency estimates to have sustained five percent or greater damage as a result of ~~[damaged in]~~ the disaster at its market value immediately after the disaster.

(a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a property owner may refuse to have the owner's property reappraised under this section.

(b) The chief appraiser ~~[If a taxing unit authorizes a reappraisal pursuant to this section, the appraisal office]~~ shall complete the reappraisal not later than the 45th day after the date the governor declares the area to be a disaster area ~~[as soon as practicable]~~.

(b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), if the Federal Emergency Management Agency or its successor agency does not

complete the damage estimates described by Subsection (a) on or before the deadline for completing the reappraisal prescribed by Subsection (b), the chief appraiser shall complete the reappraisal as soon as practicable after the damage estimates are completed.

(b-2) The chief appraiser ~~[appraisal office]~~ shall include on the appraisal records, in addition to other information required or authorized by law:

(1) the date of the disaster; and

(2) the appraised value of the property after the disaster ~~[, and~~

~~[(3) if the reappraisal is not authorized by all taxing units in which the property is located, an indication of the taxing units to which the reappraisal applies].~~

(c) A taxing unit for which property is reappraised ~~[that authorizes a reappraisal]~~ under this section must pay the appraisal district all the costs of making the reappraisal. If property in the same territory is reappraised for two or more taxing units ~~[provide for the reappraisal in the same territory]~~, each unit shall share the costs of the reappraisal in that territory in the proportion the total dollar amount of taxes each unit imposed in that territory in the preceding year bears to the total dollar amount of taxes all units ~~[providing for reappraisal of that territory]~~ imposed in that territory in the preceding year.

(d) If property damaged in a disaster is reappraised for a taxing unit as provided by this section, the governing body of the taxing unit shall provide for prorating the taxes on the property for the year in which the disaster occurred. The ~~[If the taxes are]~~

1 prorated[7] taxes due on the property are determined as follows:
 2 the taxes on the property based on its value on January 1 of that
 3 year are multiplied by a fraction, the denominator of which is 365
 4 and the numerator of which is the number of days before the date the
 5 disaster occurred; the taxes on the property based on its
 6 reappraised value are multiplied by a fraction, the denominator of
 7 which is 365 and the numerator of which is the number of days,
 8 including the date the disaster occurred, remaining in the year;
 9 and the total of the two amounts is the amount of taxes on the
 10 property for the year.

11 (e) The comptroller may adopt rules to implement and
 12 administer this section.

13 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
 14 to the reappraisal of property located in an area that is declared
 15 to be a disaster area by the governor on or after the effective date
 16 of this Act. The reappraisal of property located in an area that
 17 was declared to be a disaster area by the governor before the
 18 effective date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed
 19 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is
 20 continued in effect for that purpose.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 25 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.