

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 1712

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the abolishment of certain advisory committees.

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

SECTION 1. RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FRAUD TASK FORCE. (a) The residential mortgage fraud task force is abolished.

(b) Section 402.033(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If a person determines or reasonably suspects that fraudulent activity has been committed or is about to be committed, the person shall report the information to an authorized governmental agency. ~~[If a person reports the information to the attorney general, the attorney general shall notify each agency with representation on the residential mortgage fraud task force under Section 402.032.]~~ If a financial institution or person

voluntarily or pursuant to this section reports fraudulent activity to an authorized governmental agency, the financial institution or person may not notify any person involved in the fraudulent activity that the fraudulent activity has been reported, and the authorized governmental agency who has any knowledge that such report was made shall not disclose to any person involved in the fraudulent activity that the fraudulent activity has been reported.

Any financial institution or person that makes a voluntary report of any possible violation of law or regulation to an authorized governmental agency shall not be liable to any person under any law

1 or regulation of the state or the United States for such report.

2 (c) Section 402.032, Government Code, is repealed.

3 SECTION 2. ADVISORY OVERSIGHT COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
4 COMMITTEE. (a) The Advisory Oversight Community Outreach  
5 Committee is abolished.

6 (b) Section 411.0197, Government Code, is repealed.

7 SECTION 3. RAIN HARVESTING AND WATER RECYCLING TASK FORCE.

8 (a) The task force under Section 2113.301(h), Government Code, as  
9 repealed by this section, is abolished.

10 (b) Section 2113.301(h), Government Code, is repealed.

11 SECTION 4. STATE COGENERATION COUNCIL. (a) The State  
12 Cogeneration Council is abolished. All rules adopted by the State  
13 Cogeneration Council are abolished.

14 (b) Section 2302.024, Government Code, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 Sec. 2302.024. AUTHORITY TO SELL POWER. A [~~(a) After the~~  
17 ~~council has approved the application to construct or operate a~~  
18 ~~cogeneration facility, a~~] cogenerating state agency may contract in  
19 the same manner as a qualifying facility for the sale to an electric  
20 utility of firm or nonfirm power produced by the state agency  
21 cogeneration facility that exceeds the agency's power  
22 requirements.

23 [~~(b) A cogenerating state agency may consult with the~~  
24 ~~council about the price or other terms of a contract entered under~~  
25 ~~this section.~~]

26 (c) The following provisions of the Government Code are  
27 repealed:

1 (1) Section 2302.001(3);

2 (2) Sections 2302.002, 2302.003, 2302.004, 2302.005,  
3 2302.006, and 2302.007;

4 (3) Section 2302.021(a); and

5 (4) Section 2302.022.

6 SECTION 5. INFORMATION RESOURCES STEERING COMMITTEE. (a)  
7 The information resources steering committee is abolished.

8 (b) Section 231.013, Family Code, is repealed.

9 SECTION 6. PREMARITAL EDUCATION HANDBOOK ADVISORY  
10 COMMITTEE. (a) The advisory committee under Section 2.014(d),  
11 Family Code, as repealed by this section, is abolished.

12 (b) Section 2.014(d), Family Code, is repealed.

13 SECTION 7. INDEPENDENT REVIEW ORGANIZATION ADVISORY GROUP.

14 (a) The advisory group under Section 4202.011, Insurance Code, as  
15 repealed by this section, is abolished.

16 (b) Section 4202.011, Insurance Code, is repealed.

17 SECTION 8. VEHICLE PROTECTION PRODUCT WARRANTOR ADVISORY  
18 BOARD. (a) The Vehicle Protection Product Warrantor Advisory  
19 Board is abolished.

20 (b) Subchapter C, Chapter 2306, Occupations Code, is  
21 repealed.

22 SECTION 9. ALTERNATIVE FUELS COUNCIL. (a) The Alternative  
23 Fuels Council is abolished.

24 (b) On the effective date of this Act, a rule, form, policy,  
25 procedure, or decision of the Alternative Fuels Council continues  
26 in effect as a rule, form, policy, procedure, or decision of the  
27 comptroller of public accounts until superseded or repealed by an

1 act of the comptroller.

2 (c) A vehicle or other property to which Section 113.290,  
3 Natural Resources Code, as repealed by this section, applied may be  
4 transferred to another person.

5 (d) Section 1232.106, Government Code, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 Sec. 1232.106. EVALUATION OF APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE  
8 WITH ALTERNATIVE FUEL PROJECTS. (a) The comptroller [~~Alternative  
9 Fuels Council~~] shall evaluate an application by an eligible entity  
10 for the financing under Section 1232.104 of the acquisition,  
11 construction, or improvement of alternative fuels infrastructure  
12 and shall determine whether the proposed project will increase  
13 energy or cost savings to the applicant.

14 (b) The authority may not issue an obligation under Section  
15 1232.104 unless the comptroller [~~Alternative Fuels Council~~]  
16 certifies that the proposed project will increase energy or cost  
17 savings to the applicant.

18 (c) The comptroller [~~Alternative Fuels Council~~] by rule may  
19 adopt procedures and standards for the evaluation of an application  
20 for the financing of a proposed project under Section 1232.104.

21 (e) Subchapter J, Chapter 113, Natural Resources Code, is  
22 repealed.

23 SECTION 10. QUALIFIED AGRICULTURAL LAND AND QUALIFIED  
24 TIMBER LAND PROPERTY TAX VALUATION MANUALS APPROVAL COMMITTEES.

25 (a) The committees under Sections 23.52(d) and 23.73(b), Tax Code,  
26 as amended by this section, are abolished.

27 (b) Section 23.52(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (d) The comptroller by rule shall develop and distribute to  
3 each appraisal office appraisal manuals setting forth this method  
4 of appraising qualified open-space land, and each appraisal office  
5 shall use the appraisal manuals in appraising qualified open-space  
6 land. The comptroller by rule shall develop and the appraisal  
7 office shall enforce procedures to verify that land meets the  
8 conditions contained in Subdivision (1) of Section 23.51 of this  
9 code. ~~[The rules, before taking effect, must be approved by a  
10 majority vote of a committee comprised of the following officials  
11 or their designees: the governor, the comptroller, the attorney  
12 general, the agriculture commissioner, and the Commissioner of the  
13 General Land Office.]~~

14 (c) Section 23.73(b), Tax Code, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 (b) The comptroller by rule shall develop and distribute to  
17 each appraisal office appraisal manuals setting forth this method  
18 of appraising qualified timber land, and each appraisal office  
19 shall use the appraisal manuals in appraising qualified timber  
20 land. The comptroller by rule shall develop and the appraisal  
21 office shall enforce procedures to verify that land meets the  
22 conditions contained in Section 23.72 of this code. ~~[The rules,  
23 before taking effect, must be approved by majority vote of a  
24 committee comprised of the following officials or their designees:  
25 the governor, the comptroller, the attorney general, the  
26 agriculture commissioner, and the Commissioner of the General Land  
27 Office.]~~

1 SECTION 11. COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a)

2 The Communities in Schools advisory committee is abolished.

3 (b) Section 16, Chapter 1156 (H.B. 2879), Acts of the 77th  
4 Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, is repealed.

5 SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect  
6 September 1, 2017.