

By: Bonnen of Galveston

H.B. No. 1738

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the registration and certification of county tax
3 assessor-collectors and their employees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 1151.151, Occupations Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1151.151. REGISTRATION REQUIRED; EXEMPTION. (a)
8 Except as provided by Subsection (b), the ~~[The]~~ following persons
9 must register with the department:

10 (1) the chief appraiser of an appraisal district, an
11 appraisal supervisor or assistant, a property tax appraiser, an
12 appraisal engineer, and any other person authorized to render
13 judgment on, recommend, or certify an appraised value to the
14 appraisal review board of an appraisal district;

15 (2) a person who engages in appraisal of property for
16 ad valorem tax purposes for an appraisal district or a taxing unit;

17 (3) an assessor-collector, ~~[other than a county~~
18 ~~assessor-collector,~~

19 ~~[(4)]~~ a collector, or another person designated by a
20 governing body as the chief administrator of the taxing unit's
21 assessment functions, collection functions, or both; and

22 (4) ~~[(5)]~~ a person who performs assessment or
23 collection functions for a taxing unit and is required to register
24 by the chief administrator of the unit's tax office.

1 (b) A county tax assessor-collector or an employee of the
2 county tax assessor-collector is exempt from registration with the
3 department.

4 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1151, Occupations Code, is
5 amended by adding Section 1151.1515 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 1151.1515. VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION. (a) A person who
7 is exempt from registration under Section 1151.151(b) may register
8 if the person satisfies the registration requirements of this
9 chapter.

10 (b) A person exempt from the registration requirements of
11 this chapter who elects to register is subject to this chapter.

12 SECTION 3. Sections 1151.160(d) and (g), Occupations Code,
13 are amended to read as follows:

14 (d) A person registered as an assessor or
15 assessor-collector [~~other than a county assessor-collector~~] shall
16 become certified as a registered Texas assessor not later than the
17 fifth anniversary of the date of the person's original
18 registration.

19 (g) A registrant who has not obtained the certification
20 required by Subsection (c), (d), or (e) within the time required by
21 the applicable subsection is entitled to a one-year extension to
22 meet the certification requirements if:

23 (1) the applicant submits proof of active military
24 status performed after the date of the applicant's original
25 registration;

26 (2) the applicant submits proof of leave under the
27 federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. Section 2601

1 et seq.) taken after the date of the applicant's original
2 registration;

3 (3) the applicant submits proof of a death or illness
4 in the family or an unforeseen emergency occurring after the date of
5 the applicant's original registration that prevented the
6 registrant from meeting certification requirements;

7 (4) a county tax assessor-collector, chief appraiser,
8 chief administrative officer of a political subdivision, or other
9 person authorized by the commission by rule requests the extension
10 on behalf of an employee;

11 (5) the applicant requesting the extension is a county
12 tax assessor-collector or chief appraiser; or

13 (6) the applicant meets another reasonable
14 qualification for an extension established by the commission by
15 rule.

16 SECTION 4. Section [1151.003](#), Occupations Code, is repealed.

17 SECTION 5. (a) The Texas Commission of Licensing and
18 Regulation shall establish procedures and requirements for the
19 expedited reinstatement of a certification under Section [1151.160](#),
20 Occupations Code, held by a county tax assessor-collector or an
21 employee of a county tax assessor-collector on June 13, 2013, and
22 nullified by Chapter 429 (S.B. 546), Acts of the 83rd Legislature,
23 Regular Session, 2013.

24 (b) A county tax assessor-collector or an employee of a
25 county tax assessor-collector who was a registrant under Chapter
26 [1151](#), Occupations Code, on June 13, 2013, and had not obtained the
27 certification under Section [1151.160](#), Occupations Code, on or

1 before that date is entitled to a five-year extension to be
2 calculated from the fifth anniversary of the applicable anniversary
3 date of the person's original registration described by Subsection
4 (c), (d), or (e) of that section to meet the certification
5 requirements. This extension is in addition to the one-year
6 extension authorized under Section 1151.160(g), Occupations Code,
7 if the registrant qualifies for an extension under that section.

8 (c) The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall
9 recognize and reinstate the highest pre-certification level
10 achieved by a county tax assessor-collector or an employee of a
11 county tax assessor-collector who was a registrant under Chapter
12 1151, Occupations Code, on June 13, 2013, and had not obtained the
13 certification under Section 1151.160, Occupations Code, on or
14 before that date. The department shall recognize all certification
15 courses successfully completed and all continuing education credit
16 earned by the county tax assessor-collector or employee in the
17 certification process.

18 (d) Not later than December 1, 2017, the Texas Commission of
19 Licensing and Regulation shall adopt rules to implement this
20 section.

21 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.