

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1360

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the provision to a property owner by certain tax
3 officials of certain information regarding the ad valorem taxes
4 imposed on the owner's property.

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

6 SECTION 1. Sections 1.085(e) and (g), Tax Code, are amended
7 to read as follows:

8 (e) The comptroller by rule:

9 (1) shall prescribe acceptable media, formats,
10 content, and methods for the electronic transmission of notices
11 required by Section 25.19 or given under Section 25.191; and

12 (2) may prescribe acceptable media, formats, content,
13 and methods for the electronic transmission of other notices,
14 renditions, and applications.

15 (g) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), if a property owner
16 whose property is included in 25 or more accounts in the appraisal
17 records of the appraisal district requests the chief appraiser to
18 enter into an agreement for the delivery of the notice required by
19 Section 25.19 or a notice given under Section 25.191 in an
20 electronic format, the chief appraiser must enter into an agreement
21 under this section for that purpose if the appraisal district is
22 located in a county that has a population of more than 200,000. If
23 the chief appraiser must enter into an agreement under this
24 subsection, the chief appraiser shall deliver the notice in

1 accordance with an electronic medium, format, content, and method
2 prescribed by the comptroller under Subsection (e). If the
3 comptroller has not prescribed the media, format, content, and
4 method applicable to the notice, the chief appraiser may determine
5 the medium, format, content, and method to be used.

6 SECTION 2. Section 25.19, Tax Code, is amended by adding
7 Subsections (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), and (b-7) to read as
8 follows:

9 (b-3) Subsections (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), and (b-7) apply only
10 to a notice required by Subsection (a) that:

11 (1) includes the information described by Subsection
12 (b)(5); and

13 (2) is for property that is located in a school
14 district that, for the school year beginning in the current tax
15 year, has entered into an agreement with the commissioner of
16 education to purchase average daily attendance credits as provided
17 by Subchapter D, Chapter 41, Education Code, in an amount
18 sufficient, in combination with any other actions taken under that
19 chapter, to reduce the school district's wealth per student to a
20 level that is equal to or less than the equalized wealth level as
21 determined by the commissioner of education under that chapter.

22 (b-4) In addition to any other information required by this
23 section, the notice must include a statement in the following form:

24 "Your local school district property taxes are estimated
25 based on the tax rate for the preceding year to be \$____. Of those
26 estimated taxes, it is estimated that:

27 "\$_____ will be used by the school district to fund

1 maintenance and operations of the school district;

2 "\$_____ will be used by the school district to pay for
3 facilities; and

4 "\$_____ will be paid by the school district to the state.

5 "For the preceding year:

6 "\$_____ was used by the school district to fund maintenance
7 and operations of the school district;

8 "\$_____ was used by the school district to pay for facilities;

9 and

10 "\$_____ was paid by the school district to the state.

11 "For the year preceding the preceding year:

12 "\$_____ was used by the school district to fund maintenance
13 and operations of the school district;

14 "\$_____ was used by the school district to pay for facilities;

15 and

16 "\$_____ was paid by the school district to the state."

17 (b-5) The chief appraiser shall compute for the current tax
18 year the estimate of the amount of taxes to be imposed by the school
19 district on the property to fund maintenance and operations of the
20 school district and to pay for facilities based on the tax rates
21 adopted by the school district under Sections 26.05(a)(2) and (1),
22 respectively, for the preceding tax year. The chief appraiser
23 shall compute for the current tax year the estimate of the amount of
24 taxes to be imposed by the school district on the property that are
25 to be paid to the state by:

26 (1) multiplying the estimate of the amount of taxes
27 for maintenance and operations to be imposed by the school district

1 on the property for the current tax year by the percentage of the
2 estimate of the amount of taxes for maintenance and operations to be
3 imposed by the school district for the current tax year that the
4 school district is required to pay under the agreement for the
5 school year beginning in the current tax year to purchase average
6 daily attendance credits; and

7 (2) dividing the amount computed under Subdivision (1)
8 by 100.

9 (b-6) The chief appraiser shall compute for the preceding
10 two tax years the amount of taxes imposed by the school district on
11 the property to fund maintenance and operations of the school
12 district and to pay for facilities as well as the amount of taxes
13 imposed by the school district that were used to pay the state in
14 the manner provided by Subsection (b-5) but based on the tax rates
15 actually adopted by the school district for each of those years.

16 (b-7) The school district, on request of the chief
17 appraiser, shall provide the chief appraiser any information
18 necessary to perform the calculations described by Subsections
19 (b-5) and (b-6).

20 SECTION 3. Chapter 25, Tax Code, is amended by adding
21 Section 25.191 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 25.191. NOTICE OF TAXES ACTUALLY IMPOSED ON PROPERTY
23 BY TAXING UNITS. (a) As an alternative to including in a notice to
24 a property owner required by Section 25.19(a) the information
25 described by Section 25.19(b)(5), if applicable, or in addition to
26 including that information in that notice, the chief appraiser may,
27 after each of the taxing units that tax the property has adopted a

1 tax rate for the current tax year, provide a notice to the property
2 owner of the taxes actually imposed on the property by the taxing
3 units.

4 (b) Section 25.19(h) applies to a notice given under this
5 section in the same manner as that subsection applies to a notice
6 given under Section 25.19(a) or (g).

7 (c) Subsections (d), (e), (f), and (g) apply only to a
8 notice given under this section that is for property that is
9 located in a school district that, for the school year beginning in
10 the current tax year, has entered into an agreement with the
11 commissioner of education to purchase average daily attendance
12 credits as provided by Subchapter D, Chapter 41, Education Code, in
13 an amount sufficient, in combination with any other actions taken
14 under that chapter, to reduce the school district's wealth per
15 student to a level that is equal to or less than the equalized
16 wealth level as determined by the commissioner of education under
17 that chapter.

18 (d) In addition to any other information required by this
19 section, the notice must include a statement in the following form:

20 "Your local school district property taxes are \$____. Of
21 those taxes:

22 "\$____ will be used by the school district to fund
23 maintenance and operations of the school district;

24 "\$____ will be used by the school district to pay for
25 facilities; and

26 "\$____ will be paid by the school district to the state.

27 "For the preceding year:

1 "\$_____ was used by the school district to fund maintenance
2 and operations of the school district;

3 "\$_____ was used by the school district to pay for facilities;
4 and

5 "\$_____ was paid by the school district to the state.

6 "For the year preceding the preceding year:

7 "\$_____ was used by the school district to fund maintenance
8 and operations of the school district;

9 "\$_____ was used by the school district to pay for facilities;
10 and

11 "\$_____ was paid by the school district to the state."

12 (e) The chief appraiser shall compute for the current tax
13 year the amount of taxes imposed by the school district on the
14 property to fund maintenance and operations of the school district
15 and to pay for facilities based on the tax rates adopted by the
16 school district under Sections 26.05(a)(2) and (1), respectively,
17 for the current tax year. The chief appraiser shall compute for the
18 current tax year the amount of taxes imposed by the school district
19 on the property that are to be paid to the state by:

20 (1) multiplying the amount of taxes for maintenance
21 and operations imposed by the school district on the property for
22 the current tax year by the percentage of the amount of taxes for
23 maintenance and operations imposed by the school district for the
24 current tax year that the school district is required to pay under
25 the agreement for the school year beginning in the current tax year
26 to purchase average daily attendance credits; and

27 (2) dividing the amount computed under Subdivision (1)

1 by 100.

2 (f) The chief appraiser shall compute for the preceding two
3 tax years the amount of taxes imposed by the school district on the
4 property to fund maintenance and operations of the school district
5 and to pay for facilities as well as the amount of taxes imposed by
6 the school district that were used to pay the state in the manner
7 provided by Subsection (e) but based on the tax rates adopted by the
8 school district for each of those years.

9 (g) The school district, on request of the chief appraiser,
10 shall provide the chief appraiser any information necessary to
11 perform the calculations described by Subsections (e) and (f).

12 SECTION 4. Section 31.01, Tax Code, is amended by adding
13 Subsections (d-2), (d-3), (d-4), and (d-5) to read as follows:

14 (d-2) This subsection and Subsections (d-3), (d-4), and
15 (d-5) apply only to a school district that, for the school year
16 beginning in the current tax year, has entered into an agreement
17 with the commissioner of education to purchase average daily
18 attendance credits as provided by Subchapter D, Chapter 41,
19 Education Code, in an amount sufficient, in combination with any
20 other actions taken under that chapter, to reduce the school
21 district's wealth per student to a level that is equal to or less
22 than the equalized wealth level as determined by the commissioner
23 of education under that chapter. In addition to any other
24 information required by this section, the tax bill or the separate
25 statement must include a statement in the following form:

26 "Your local school district property taxes are \$____. Of
27 those taxes:

1 "\$_____ will be used by the school district to fund
2 maintenance and operations of the school district;

3 "\$_____ will be used by the school district to pay for
4 facilities; and

5 "\$_____ will be paid by the school district to the state.

6 "For the preceding year:

7 "\$_____ was used by the school district to fund maintenance
8 and operations of the school district;

9 "\$_____ was used by the school district to pay for facilities;
10 and

11 "\$_____ was paid by the school district to the state.

12 "For the year preceding the preceding year:

13 "\$_____ was used by the school district to fund maintenance
14 and operations of the school district;

15 "\$_____ was used by the school district to pay for facilities;
16 and

17 "\$_____ was paid by the school district to the state."

18 (d-3) The assessor for the school district shall compute for
19 the current tax year the amount of taxes imposed by the school
20 district on the property to fund maintenance and operations of the
21 school district and to pay for facilities based on the tax rates
22 adopted by the school district under Sections 26.05(a)(2) and (1),
23 respectively, for the current tax year. The assessor shall compute
24 for the current tax year the amount of taxes imposed by the school
25 district on the property that are to be paid to the state by:

26 (1) multiplying the amount of taxes for maintenance
27 and operations imposed by the school district on the property for

1 the current tax year by the percentage of the amount of taxes for
2 maintenance and operations imposed by the school district for the
3 current tax year that the school district is required to pay under
4 the agreement for the school year beginning in the current tax year
5 to purchase average daily attendance credits; and

6 (2) dividing the amount computed under Subdivision (1)
7 by 100.

8 (d-4) The assessor for the school district shall compute for
9 the preceding two tax years the amount of taxes imposed by the
10 school district on the property to fund maintenance and operations
11 of the school district and to pay for facilities as well as the
12 amount of taxes imposed by the school district that were used to pay
13 the state in the manner provided by Subsection (d-3) but based on
14 the tax rates adopted by the school district for each of those
15 years.

16 (d-5) The school district, on request of the assessor for
17 the school district, shall provide the assessor any information
18 necessary to perform the calculations described by Subsections
19 (d-3) and (d-4).

20 SECTION 5. (a) Section 25.19, Tax Code, as amended by this
21 Act, and Section 25.191, Tax Code, as added by this Act, apply only
22 to a notice for a tax year beginning on or after the effective date
23 of this Act. A notice for a tax year beginning before the effective
24 date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before
25 the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect
26 for that purpose.

27 (b) Section 31.01, Tax Code, as amended by this Act, applies

1 only to a bill for ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year beginning
2 on or after the effective date of this Act. A bill for ad valorem
3 taxes imposed for a tax year beginning before the effective date of
4 this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the
5 effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for
6 that purpose.

7 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect January 1, 2018.