

19 APR 10 AM 9: 08 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO._____

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- 1 Amend C.S.H.B. No. 2 by striking all below the enacting
- 2 clause and substituting the following:
- 3 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Texas Taxpayer
- 4 Transparency Act of 2019.
- 5 SECTION 2. 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 3. 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
- 25 primary responsibility for state administration of property
- 26 taxation and state oversight of appraisal districts. The advisory
- 27 board may make recommendations to the comptroller regarding
- 28 improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the property tax
- 29 system, best practices, and complaint resolution procedures.

1 (b) The advisory board is composed of at least six members

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- 2 appointed by the comptroller. The members of the board should
- 3 include:
- 4 (1) representatives of property tax payers, appraisal
- 5 districts, assessors, and school districts; and
- 6 (2) a person who has knowledge or experience in
- 7 conducting ratio studies.
- 8 (c) The members of the advisory board serve at the pleasure
- 9 of the comptroller.
- 10 (d) Any advice to the comptroller relating to a matter
- 11 described by Subsection (a) that is provided by a member of the
- 12 advisory board must be provided at a meeting called by the
- 13 comptroller.
- (e) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
- 15 advisory board.
- 16 SECTION 4. Sections 5.041(b), (c), (e-1), and (e-3), Tax
- 17 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 18 (b) A member of the appraisal review board established for
- 19 an appraisal district must complete the course established under
- 20 Subsection (a). The course must provide at least eight hours of
- 21 classroom training and education. A member of the appraisal review
- 22 board may not participate in a hearing conducted by the board unless
- 23 the person has completed the course established under Subsection
- 24 (a) and received a certificate of course completion.
- 25 (c) The comptroller may contract with service providers to
- 26 assist with the duties imposed under Subsection (a), but the course
- 27 required may not be provided by an appraisal district, the chief
- 28 appraiser or another employee of an appraisal district, a member of
- 29 the board of directors of an appraisal district, a member of an
- 30 appraisal review board, or a taxing unit. The comptroller may
- 31 assess a fee to recover a portion of the costs incurred for the

- 1 training course, but the fee may not exceed \$50 for each [per]
- 2 person trained. If the training is provided to an individual other
- 3 than a member of an appraisal review board, the comptroller may
- 4 assess a fee not to exceed \$50 for each person trained.
- 5 (e-1) In addition to the course established under
- 6 Subsection (a), the comptroller shall approve curricula and provide
- 7 materials for use in a continuing education course for members of an
- 8 appraisal review board. The course must provide at least four hours
- 9 of classroom training and education. The curricula and materials
- 10 must include information regarding:
- 11 (1) the cost, income, and market data comparison
- 12 methods of appraising property;
- 13 (2) the appraisal of business personal property;
- 14 (3) the determination of capitalization rates for
- 15 property appraisal purposes;
- 16 (4) the duties of an appraisal review board;
- 17 (5) the requirements regarding the independence of an
- 18 appraisal review board from the board of directors and the chief
- 19 appraiser and other employees of the appraisal district;
- 20 (6) the prohibitions against ex parte communications
- 21 applicable to appraisal review board members;
- 22 (7) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal
- 23 Practice;
- 24 (8) the duty of the appraisal district to substantiate
- 25 the district's determination of the value of property;
- 26 (9) the requirements regarding the equal and uniform
- 27 appraisal of property;
- 28 (10) the right of a property owner to protest the
- 29 appraisal of the property as provided by Chapter 41; and
- 30 (11) a detailed explanation of each of the actions
- 31 described by Sections 25.25, 41.41(a), 41.411, 41.412, 41.413,

- 1 41.42, and 41.43 so that members are fully aware of each of the
- 2 grounds on which a property appraisal can be appealed.
- 3 (e-3) The comptroller may contract with service providers
- 4 to assist with the duties imposed under Subsection (e-1), but the
- 5 course required by that subsection may not be provided by an
- 6 appraisal district, the chief appraiser or another employee of an
- 7 appraisal district, a member of the board of directors of an
- 8 appraisal district, a member of an appraisal review board, or a
- 9 taxing unit. The comptroller may assess a fee to recover a portion
- 10 of the costs incurred for the continuing education course, but the
- 11 fee may not exceed \$50 for each person trained. If the training is
- 12 provided to an individual other than a member of an appraisal review
- 13 board, the comptroller may assess a fee not to exceed \$50 for each
- 14 person trained.
- 15 SECTION 5. Chapter 5, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section
- 16 5.043 to read as follows:
- 17 Sec. 5.043. TRAINING OF ARBITRATORS. (a) This section
- 18 applies only to persons who have agreed to serve as arbitrators
- 19 under Chapter 41A.
- 20 (b) The comptroller shall:
- 21 (1) approve curricula and provide an arbitration
- 22 manual and other materials for use in training and educating
- 23 <u>arbitrators;</u>
- (2) make all materials for use in training and
- 25 educating arbitrators freely available online; and
- 26 (3) establish and supervise a training program on
- 27 property tax law for the training and education of arbitrators.
- 28 (c) The training program must:
- 29 (1) emphasize the requirements regarding the equal and
- 30 uniform appraisal of property; and
- 31 (2) be at least four hours in length.

- 1 (d) The training program may be provided online. The
- 2 comptroller by rule may prescribe the manner by which the
- 3 comptroller may verify that a person taking the training program
- 4 online has taken and completed the program.
- 5 (e) The comptroller may contract with service providers to
- 6 assist with the duties imposed under Subsection (b), but the
- 7 training program may not be provided by an appraisal district, the
- 8 chief appraiser or another employee of an appraisal district, a
- 9 member of the board of directors of an appraisal district, a member
- 10 of an appraisal review board, or a taxing unit. The comptroller may
- 11 assess a fee to recover a portion of the costs incurred for the
- 12 training program, but the fee may not exceed \$50 for each person
- 13 trained.
- 14 (f) The comptroller shall prepare an arbitration manual for
- 15 use in the training program. The manual shall be updated regularly
- 16 and may be revised on request, in writing, to the comptroller. The
- 17 revised language must be approved by the unanimous agreement of a
- 18 committee selected by the comptroller and representing, equally,
- 19 taxpayers and chief appraisers. The person requesting the revision
- 20 must pay the costs of mediation if the comptroller determines that
- 21 mediation is required.
- 22 SECTION 6. Section 5.05, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 23 Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:
- 24 (c-1) An appraisal district shall appraise property in
- 25 accordance with any appraisal manuals required by law to be
- 26 prepared and issued by the comptroller.
- 27 SECTION 7. Section 5.07, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 28 Subsections (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) to read as follows:
- 29 (f) The comptroller shall prescribe tax rate calculation
- 30 forms to be used by the designated officer or employee of each:
- 31 (1) taxing unit other than a school district to

- 1 calculate and submit the no-new-revenue tax rate and the rollback
- 2 tax rate for the taxing unit as required by Chapter 26; and
- 3 (2) school district to:
- 4 (A) calculate and submit the no-new-revenue tax
- 5 rate and the rollback tax rate for the district as required by
- 6 Chapter 26; and
- 7 (B) submit the rate to maintain the same amount
- 8 of state and local revenue per weighted student that the district
- 9 received in the school year beginning in the preceding tax year as
- 10 required by Chapter 26.
- 11 (g) The forms described by Subsection (f) must be in an
- 12 electronic format and:
- 13 (1) have blanks that can be filled in electronically;
- 14 (2) be capable of being certified by the designated
- 15 officer or employee after completion as accurately calculating the
- 16 applicable tax rates and using values that are the same as the
- 17 values shown in the taxing unit's certified appraisal roll; and
- 18 (3) be capable of being electronically incorporated
- 19 into the property tax database maintained by each appraisal
- 20 district under Section 26.17 and submitted electronically to the
- 21 county assessor-collector of each county in which all or part of the
- 22 territory of the taxing unit is located.
- 23 (h) For purposes of Subsections (f) and (g), the comptroller
- 24 shall use the forms published on the comptroller's Internet website
- 25 as of January 1, 2019, modified as necessary to comply with the
- 26 requirements of this section. The comptroller shall update the
- 27 forms as necessary to reflect formatting or other nonsubstantive
- 28 changes.
- 29 (i) The comptroller may revise the forms to reflect
- 30 substantive changes other than those described by Subsection (h) or
- 31 on receipt of a request in writing. A revision under this

- 1 subsection must be approved by the agreement of a majority of the
- 2 members of a committee selected by the comptroller who are present
- 3 at a committee meeting at which a quorum is present. The members of
- 4 the committee must represent, equally, taxpayers, taxing units or
- 5 persons designated by taxing units, and assessors. In the case of a
- 6 revision for which the comptroller receives a request in writing,
- 7 the person requesting the revision shall pay the costs of mediation
- 8 if the comptroller determines that mediation is required.
- 9 (j) A meeting of the committee held under Subsection (i) is
- 10 not subject to the requirements of Chapter 551, Government Code.
- 11 SECTION 8. Section 5.09(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 12 follows:
- 13 (a) The comptroller shall prepare a biennial report of the
- 14 total appraised values and taxable values of taxable property by
- 15 category and the tax rates of each county, municipality, special
- 16 <u>district</u>, and school district in effect for the two years preceding
- 17 the year in which the report is prepared. The comptroller shall
- 18 review and verify the values and tax rates reported to the
- 19 comptroller for the purpose of preparing the report and prepare the
- 20 report so that the information provided to the comptroller is
- 21 presented in a consistent manner.
- 22 SECTION 9. Section 5.091, Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 23 follows:
- Sec. 5.091. STATEWIDE LIST OF TAX RATES. (a) Each year the
- 25 comptroller shall prepare a list that includes the total tax rate
- 26 imposed by each taxing unit in this state, <u>as</u> [other than a school
- 27 district, if the tax rate is reported to the comptroller by each
- 28 appraisal district, for the year [preceding the year] in which the
- 29 list is prepared. The comptroller shall:
- 30 (1) prescribe the manner in which and deadline by
- 31 which appraisal districts are required to submit the tax rates to

1 the comptroller; and

- 2 (2) list the tax rates alphabetically according to:
- 3 (A) the county or counties in which each taxing
- 4 unit is located; and
- 5 (B) the name of each taxing unit [in-descending
- 6 order].
- 7 (b) Not later than January 1 [December 31] of the following
- 8 [each] year, the comptroller shall publish on the comptroller's
- 9 Internet website the list required by Subsection (a).
- 10 SECTION 10. Sections 5.102(a) and (c), Tax Code, are
- 11 amended to read as follows:
- 12 (a) At least once every two years, the comptroller shall
- 13 review the governance of each appraisal district, the taxpayer
- 14 assistance provided by each appraisal district, and the operating
- 15 and appraisal standards, procedures, and methodology used by each
- 16 appraisal district, to determine compliance with generally
- 17 accepted standards, procedures, and methodology, including
- 18 compliance with standards, procedures, and methodology prescribed
- 19 by any appraisal manuals required by law to be prepared and issued
- 20 by the comptroller. After consultation with the property tax
- 21 administration advisory board [committee created under Section
- 22 403.302, Government Code], the comptroller by rule may establish
- 23 procedures and standards for conducting and scoring the review.
- (c) At the conclusion of the review, the comptroller shall,
- 25 in writing, notify the appraisal district concerning its
- 26 performance in the review. If the review results in a finding that
- 27 an appraisal district is not in compliance with generally accepted
- 28 standards, procedures, and methodology, including compliance with
- 29 standards, procedures, and methodology prescribed by any appraisal
- 30 manuals required by law to be prepared and issued by the
- 31 <u>comptroller</u>, the comptroller shall deliver a report that details

- 1 the comptroller's findings and recommendations for improvement to:
- 2 (1) the appraisal district's chief appraiser and board
- 3 of directors; and
- 4 (2) the superintendent and board of trustees of each
- 5 school district participating in the appraisal district.
- 6 SECTION 11. Chapter 5, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 7 Section 5.104 to read as follows:
- 8 Sec. 5.104. APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD SURVEY, REPORT. (a) The
- 9 comptroller shall:
- 10 (1) prepare an appraisal review board survey form that
- 11 allows an individual described by Subsection (b) to submit comments
- 12 and suggestions to the comptroller regarding an appraisal review
- 13 board;
- 14 (2) prepare instructions for completing and
- 15 submitting the form; and
- 16 (3) establish and maintain a web page on the
- 17 comptroller's Internet website that allows an individual described
- 18 by Subsection (b) to electronically complete and submit the form.
- 19 (b) The following individuals who attend a hearing in person
- 20 or by telephone conference call on a motion filed under Section
- 21 25.25 to correct the appraisal roll or a protest under Chapter 41
- 22 may complete and submit a survey form under this section:
- 23 (1) a property owner whose property is the subject of
- 24 the motion or protest;
- 25 (2) the designated agent of the owner; or
- 26 (3) a designated representative of the appraisal
- 27 district in which the motion or protest is filed.
- 28 (c) The survey form must allow an individual to submit
- 29 comments and suggestions regarding:
- 30 (1) the matters listed in Section 5.103(b); and
- 31 (2) any other matter related to the fairness and

- 1 <u>efficiency of the appraisal review board.</u>
- 2 (d) An appraisal district must provide to each property
- 3 owner or designated agent of the owner who is authorized to submit a
- 4 survey form under this section a document that states that the owner
- 5 or agent:
- 6 (1) is entitled to complete and submit the survey
- 7 form;
- 8 (2) may submit the form to the comptroller:
- 9 (A) in person;
- 10 (B) by mail;
- 11 (C) by electronic mail; or
- 12 (D) through the web page required to be
- 13 established by the comptroller under Subsection (a)(3); and
- 14 (3) may obtain a paper copy of the form and
- 15 instructions for completing the form at the appraisal office.
- 16 (e) The document described by Subsection (d) must include
- 17 the uniform resource locator (URL) address of the web page required
- 18 to be established by the comptroller under Subsection (a)(3).
- 19 (f) An appraisal district must provide the document
- 20 described by Subsection (d) to a property owner or the designated
- 21 agent of the owner:
- 22 (1) at or before the first hearing on the motion or
- 23 protest described by Subsection (b) by the appraisal review board
- 24 established for the appraisal district or by a panel of the board;
- 25 and
- 26 (2) with each order under Section 25.25 or 41.47
- 27 determining a motion or protest, as applicable, delivered by the
- 28 board or a panel of the board.
- 29 (g) Notwithstanding Subsections (d) and (f), if an
- 30 appraisal district provides the document described by Subsection
- 31 (d) to a property owner or the designated agent of the owner at or

- 1 before a hearing on a motion or protest described by Subsection (b),
- 2 the appraisal district is not required to provide another copy of
- 3 the document to the owner or agent at or before another hearing on a
- 4 motion or protest held on the same day.
- 5 (h) An individual who elects to submit the survey form must
- 6 submit the form to the comptroller as provided by this section. An
- 7 individual may submit only one survey form for each motion or
- 8 protest.
- 9 (i) The comptroller shall allow an individual to submit a
- 10 survey form to the comptroller in the following manner:
- 11 <u>(1)</u> in person;
- 12 <u>(2) by mail;</u>
- 13 (3) by electronic mail; or
- 14 (4) through the web page required to be established by
- 15 the comptroller under Subsection (a)(3).
- (j) An appraisal district may not require a property owner
- 17 or the designated agent of the owner to complete a survey form at
- 18 the appraisal office.
- 19 (k) The comptroller shall issue an annual report that
- 20 summarizes the information included in the survey forms submitted
- 21 during the preceding tax year. The report may not disclose the
- 22 <u>identity of an individual who submitted a survey form.</u>
- 23 (1) The comptroller may adopt rules necessary to implement
- 24 this section.
- 25 SECTION 12. Section 5.13(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 26 follows:
- 27 (d) In conducting a general audit, the comptroller shall
- 28 consider and report on:
- 29 (1) the extent to which the district complies with
- 30 applicable law or generally accepted standards of appraisal or
- 31 other relevant practice, including appraisal standards and

- 1 practices prescribed by any appraisal manuals required by law to be
- 2 prepared and issued by the comptroller;
- 3 (2) the uniformity and level of appraisal of major
- 4 kinds of property and the cause of any significant deviations from
- 5 ideal uniformity and equality of appraisal of major kinds of
- 6 property;
- 7 (3) duplication of effort and efficiency of operation;
- 8 (4) the general efficiency, quality of service, and
- 9 qualification of appraisal district personnel; and
- 10 (5) except as otherwise provided by Subsection (b) [ef
- 11 this section], any other matter included in the request for the
- 12 audit.
- 13 SECTION 13. Section 6.035(a-1), Tax Code, is amended to
- 14 read as follows:
- 15 (a-1) An individual is ineligible to serve on an appraisal
- 16 district board of directors if the individual has engaged in the
- 17 business of appraising property for compensation for use in
- 18 proceedings under this title or of representing property owners for
- 19 compensation in proceedings under this title in the appraisal
- 20 district at any time during the preceding three [five] years.
- 21 SECTION 14. Section 6.15, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 22 Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:
- 23 (c-1) Subsections (a) and (b) do not prohibit a member of
- 24 the board of directors of an appraisal district from transmitting
- 25 to the chief appraiser without comment a complaint by a property
- 26 owner or taxing unit about the appraisal of a specific property,
- 27 provided that the transmission is in writing.
- 28 SECTION 15. Section 6.41, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 29 Subsections (b) and (d-9) and adding Subsections (b-1), (b-2), and
- 30 (d-10) to read as follows:
- 31 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1) or (b-2), an

- 1 appraisal review [The] board consists of three members.
- 2 (b-1) An appraisal [However, the] district board of
- 3 directors by resolution of a majority of the board's [its] members
- 4 may increase the size of the district's appraisal review board to
- 5 the number of members the board of directors considers appropriate.
- 6 (b-2) An appraisal district board of directors for a
- 7 district established in a county with a population of one million or
- 8 more by resolution of a majority of the board's members shall
- 9 increase the size of the district's appraisal review board to the
- 10 number of members the board of directors considers appropriate to
- 11 manage the duties of the appraisal review board, including the
- 12 <u>duties of each special panel established under Section 6.425.</u>
- 13 (d-9) <u>In selecting individuals who are to serve as members</u>
- 14 of the appraisal review board for an appraisal district described
- 15 by Subsection (b-2), the local administrative district judge shall
- 16 select an adequate number of qualified individuals to permit the
- 17 chairman of the appraisal review board to fill the positions on each
- 18 special panel established under Section 6.425.
- 19 (d-10) Upon selection of the individuals who are to serve as
- 20 members of the appraisal review board, the local administrative
- 21 district judge shall enter an appropriate order designating such
- 22 members and setting each member's respective term of office, as
- 23 provided elsewhere in this section.
- 24 SECTION 16. Sections 6.412(a) and (d), Tax Code, are
- 25 amended to read as follows:
- 26 (a) An individual is ineligible to serve on an appraisal
- 27 review board if the individual:
- 28 (1) is related within the second degree by
- 29 consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573,
- 30 Government Code, to an individual who is engaged in the business of
- 31 appraising property for compensation for use in proceedings under

- 1 this title or of representing property owners for compensation in
- 2 proceedings under this title in the appraisal district for which
- 3 the appraisal review board is established;
- 4 (2) owns property on which delinquent taxes have been
- 5 owed to a taxing unit for more than 60 days after the date the
- 6 individual knew or should have known of the delinquency unless:
- 7 (A) the delinquent taxes and any penalties and
- 8 interest are being paid under an installment payment agreement
- 9 under Section 33.02; or
- 10 (B) a suit to collect the delinquent taxes is
- 11 deferred or abated under Section 33.06 or 33.065; or
- 12 (3) is related within the third degree by
- 13 consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity, as
- 14 determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, to a member of:
- 15 (A) the appraisal district's board of directors;
- 16 or
- 17 <u>(B)</u> the appraisal review board.
- 18 (d) A person is ineligible to serve on the appraisal review
- 19 board of an appraisal district established for a county described
- 20 by Section 6.41(d-1) [having-a population of more than 100,000] if
- 21 the person:
- 22 (1) is a former member of the board of directors,
- 23 former officer, or former employee of the appraisal district;
- 24 (2) served as a member of the governing body or officer
- 25 of a taxing unit for which the appraisal district appraises
- 26 property, until the fourth anniversary of the date the person
- 27 ceased to be a member or officer; [ex]
- 28 (3) appeared before the appraisal review board for
- 29 compensation during the two-year period preceding the date the
- 30 person is appointed; or
- 31 (4) served for all or part of three previous terms as a

- 1 board member or auxiliary board member on the appraisal review
- 2 board.
- 3 SECTION 17. Section 6.414(d), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 4 as follows:
- 5 (d) An auxiliary board member may hear taxpayer protests
- 6 before the appraisal review board. An auxiliary board member may
- 7 not hear taxpayer protests before a special panel established under
- 8 Section 6.425 unless the member is eligible to be appointed to the
- 9 special panel. If one or more auxiliary board members sit on a
- 10 panel established under Section 6.425 or 41.45 to conduct a protest
- 11 hearing, the number of regular appraisal review board members
- 12 required by that section to constitute the panel is reduced by the
- 13 number of auxiliary board members sitting. An auxiliary board
- 14 member sitting on a panel is considered a regular board member for
- 15 all purposes related to the conduct of the hearing.
- SECTION 18. Section 6.42, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 17 Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:
- 18 (a) A majority of the appraisal review board constitutes a
- 19 quorum. The <u>local administrative district</u> judge under Subchapter
- 20 D, Chapter 74, Government Code, in the county in which [board of
- 21 directors of the appraisal district is established [by resolution]
- 22 shall select a chairman and a secretary from among the members of
- 23 the appraisal review board. The judge [board of directors of the
- 24 appraisal district] is encouraged to select as chairman [of the
- 25 appraisal review board] a member of the appraisal review board, if
- 26 any, who has a background in law and property appraisal.
- 27 (d) The concurrence of a majority of the members of the
- 28 appraisal review board present at a meeting of the board is
- 29 <u>sufficient for a recommendation</u>, determination, decision, or other
- 30 action by the board. The concurrence of a majority of the members
- 31 of a panel of the board present at a meeting of the panel is

- 1 sufficient for a recommendation by the panel. The concurrence of
- 2 more than a majority of the members of the board or panel may not be
- 3 required.
- 4 SECTION 19. Subchapter C, Chapter 6, Tax Code, is amended by
- 5 adding Section 6.425 to read as follows:
- 6 Sec. 6.425. SPECIAL APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD PANELS IN
- 7 CERTAIN DISTRICTS. (a) This section applies only to the appraisal
- 8 review board for an appraisal district described by Section
- 9 <u>6.41(b-2).</u>
- 10 (b) The appraisal review board shall establish special
- 11 panels to conduct protest hearings under Chapter 41 relating to
- 12 property that:
- 13 (1) has an appraised value of \$50 million or more as
- 14 determined by the appraisal district; and
- 15 (2) is included in one of the following
- 16 classifications:
- 17 (A) commercial real and personal property;
- 18 (B) real and personal property of utilities;
- 19 (C) industrial and manufacturing real and
- 20 personal property; and
- 21 (D) multifamily residential real property.
- 22 (c) Each special panel described by this section consists of
- 23 three members of the appraisal review board appointed by the
- 24 chairman of the board.
- 25 (d) To be eligible to be appointed to a special panel
- 26 described by this section, a member of the appraisal review board
- 27 <u>must:</u>
- 28 (1) hold a juris doctor or equivalent degree;
- 29 (2) hold a master of business administration degree;
- 30 (3) be licensed as a certified public accountant under
- 31 Chapter 901, Occupations Code;

- 1 (4) be accredited by the American Society of
- 2 Appraisers as an accredited senior appraiser;
- 3 (5) possess an MAI professional designation from the
- 4 Appraisal Institute;
- 5 (6) possess a Certified Assessment Evaluator (CAE)
- 6 professional designation from the International Association of
- 7 Assessing Officers;
- 8 (7) have at least 10 years of experience in property
- 9 tax appraisal or consulting; or
- 10 (8) be licensed as a real estate broker or sales agent
- 11 under Chapter 1101, Occupations Code.
- (e) Notwithstanding Subsection (d), the chairman of the
- 13 appraisal review board may appoint to a special panel described by
- 14 this section a member of the appraisal review board who does not
- 15 meet the qualifications prescribed by that subsection if:
- 16 (1) the number of persons appointed to the board by the
- 17 local administrative district judge who meet those qualifications
- 18 is not sufficient to fill the positions on each special panel; and
- 19 (2) the board member being appointed to the panel
- 20 holds a bachelor's degree in any field.
- 21 (f) In addition to conducting protest hearings relating to
- 22 property described by Subsection (b) of this section, a special
- 23 panel may conduct protest hearings under Chapter 41 relating to
- 24 property not described by Subsection (b) of this section as
- 25 assigned by the chairman of the appraisal review board.
- SECTION 20. Section 22.23(d), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 27 as follows:
- 28 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
- 29 rendition statements and property reports required to be filed by a
- 30 property owner [for property] regulated by the Public Utility
- 31 Commission of Texas, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the federal

- 1 Surface Transportation Board, or the Federal Energy Regulatory
- 2 Commission must be delivered to the chief appraiser not later than
- 3 April 30, except as provided by Section 22.02. The chief appraiser
- 4 may extend the filing deadline in the manner prescribed by
- 5 Subsection (b) [15 days for good cause shown in writing by the
- 6 property owner].
- 7 SECTION 21. Section 23.01, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 8 Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:
- 9 (b) The market value of property shall be determined by the
- 10 application of generally accepted appraisal methods and
- 11 techniques, including appraisal methods and techniques prescribed
- 12 by any appraisal manuals required by law to be prepared and issued
- 13 by the comptroller. If the appraisal district determines the
- 14 appraised value of a property using mass appraisal standards, the
- 15 mass appraisal standards must comply with the Uniform Standards of
- 16 Professional Appraisal Practice. The same or similar appraisal
- 17 methods and techniques shall be used in appraising the same or
- 18 similar kinds of property. However, each property shall be
- 19 appraised based upon the individual characteristics that affect the
- 20 property's market value, and all available evidence that is
- 21 specific to the value of the property shall be taken into account in
- 22 determining the property's market value.
- 23 (h) Appraisal methods and techniques included in the most
- 24 recent versions of the following are considered generally accepted
- 25 appraisal methods and techniques for the purposes of this title:
- 26 (1) the Appraisal of Real Estate published by the
- 27 Appraisal Institute;
- 28 (2) the Dictionary of Real Estate Appraisal published
- 29 by the Appraisal Institute;
- 30 (3) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal
- 31 Practice published by The Appraisal Foundation;

- 1 (4) a publication of the International Association of
- 2 Assessing Officers that includes information related to mass
- 3 appraisal; and
- 4 (5) any other verifiable authority if none of the
- 5 publications described by Subdivisions (1)-(4) includes a
- 6 generally accepted appraisal methodology or technique applicable
- 7 to the appraisal of one or more classes of property.
- 8 SECTION 22. Section 25.19, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 9 Subsections (b) and (i) and adding Subsections (b-3) and (b-4) to
- 10 read as follows:
- 11 (b) The chief appraiser shall separate real from personal
- 12 property and include in the notice for each:
- 13 (1) a list of the taxing units in which the property is
- 14 taxable;
- 15 (2) the appraised value of the property in the
- 16 preceding year;
- 17 (3) the taxable value of the property in the preceding
- 18 year for each taxing unit taxing the property;
- 19 (4) the appraised value of the property for the
- 20 current year, the kind and amount of each exemption and partial
- 21 exemption, if any, approved for the property for the current year
- 22 and for the preceding year, and, if an exemption or partial
- 23 exemption that was approved for the preceding year was canceled or
- 24 reduced for the current year, the amount of the exemption or partial
- 25 exemption canceled or reduced;
- 26 (5) [if the appraised value is greater than it was in
- 27 the preceding year, the amount of tax that would be imposed on the
- 28 property on the basis of the tax rate for the preceding year;
- 29 [(6)] in italic typeface, the following
- 30 statement: "The Texas Legislature does not set the amount of your
- 31 local taxes. Your property tax burden is decided by your locally

- 1 elected officials, and all inquiries concerning your taxes should
- 2 be directed to those officials";
- 3 (6) $[\frac{(7)}{1}]$ a detailed explanation of the time and
- 4 procedure for protesting the value;
- 5 (7) [(8)] the date and place the appraisal review
- 6 board will begin hearing protests; and
- 7 (8) (9) a brief explanation that the governing body
- 8 of each taxing unit decides whether or not taxes on the property
- 9 will increase and the appraisal district only determines the value
- 10 of the property.
- 11 (b-3) This subsection applies only to an appraisal district
- 12 described by Section 6.41(b-2). In addition to the information
- 13 required by Subsection (b), the chief appraiser shall state in a
- 14 <u>notice of appraised value of property described by Section 6.425(b)</u>
- 15 that the property owner has the right to have a protest relating to
- 16 the property heard by a special panel of the appraisal review board.
- 17 (b-4) Subsection (b)(5) applies only to a notice of
- 18 appraised value required to be delivered by the chief appraiser of
- 19 an appraisal district established in a county with a population of
- 20 less than 120,000. This subsection expires January 1, 2022.
- 21 (i) Delivery with a notice required by Subsection (a) or (g)
- 22 of a copy of the pamphlet published by the comptroller under Section
- 23 5.06 or a copy of the notice published by the chief appraiser under
- 24 Section 41.70 is sufficient to comply with the requirement that the
- 25 notice include the information specified by Subsection (b)(6)
- 26 $[\frac{(b)(7)}{(7)}]$ or (g)(3), as applicable.
- 27 SECTION 23. Section 26.01, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 28 Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:
- 29 (a-1) If by July 20 the appraisal review board for an
- 30 appraisal district has not approved the appraisal records for the
- 31 district as required under Section 41.12, the chief appraiser shall

- 1 not later than July 25 prepare and certify to the assessor for each
- 2 taxing unit participating in the district an estimate of the
- 3 taxable value of property in that taxing unit.
- 4 SECTION 24. Section 26.012, Tax Code, is amended by
- 5 amending Subdivisions (7) and (10) and adding Subdivisions (10-a),
- 6 (19), (20), and (22) to read as follows:
- 7 (7) "Debt" means a bond, warrant, certificate of
- 8 obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness owed by a taxing unit
- 9 that has been approved at an election and is payable solely from
- 10 property taxes in installments over a period of more than one year,
- 11 not budgeted for payment from maintenance and operations funds, and
- 12 secured by a pledge of property taxes, or a payment made under
- 13 contract to secure indebtedness of a similar nature issued by
- 14 another political subdivision on behalf of the taxing unit.
- 15 (10) "Excess collections" means the amount, if any, by
- 16 which debt taxes collected in the preceding year exceeded the
- 17 amount anticipated in the preceding year's calculation of the
- 18 rollback tax rate, as certified by the collector under Section
- 19 26.04(b) [of this code].
- 20 (10-a) "Inflation rate" means the amount, expressed in
- 21 decimal form rounded to the nearest thousandth, computed by
- 22 determining the percentage change in the consumer price index for
- 23 the preceding calendar year as compared to the consumer price index
- 24 for the calendar year preceding that calendar year.
- 25 (19) "Revenue enrichment amount" means the amount for
- 26 the current tax year published by the comptroller under Section
- $27 \quad \underline{26.04(b-1)}$.
- 28 (20) "Revenue enrichment rate" means the rate that,
- 29 when applied to a taxing unit's current total value, will impose an
- 30 amount of taxes equal to the revenue enrichment amount.
- 31 (22) "Unused increment rate" means the rate equal to

- 1 the positive difference between:
- 2 (A) the aggregate rate by which a taxing unit's
- 3 rollback tax rate, calculated without regard to this subdivision,
- 4 exceeded the taxing unit's adopted tax rate in the preceding five
- 5 tax years; and
- 6 (B) the aggregate rate by which a taxing unit's
- 7 adopted tax rate exceeded the taxing unit's rollback tax rate,
- 8 calculated without regard to this subdivision, in the preceding
- 9 five tax years.
- SECTION 25. Section 26.012(9), Tax Code, is redesignated as
- 11 Section 26.012(18), Tax Code, and amended to read as follows:
- 12 (18) "No-new-revenue [(9) "Effective] maintenance
- 13 and operations rate" means a rate expressed in dollars per \$100 of
- 14 taxable value and calculated according to the following formula:
- 15 NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE] MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS
- 16 RATE = (LAST YEAR'S LEVY LAST YEAR'S DEBT LEVY LAST
- 17 YEAR'S JUNIOR COLLEGE LEVY) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE -
- 18 NEW PROPERTY VALUE)
- 19 SECTION 26. Chapter 26, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 20 Section 26.013 to read as follows:
- 21 Sec. 26.013. CALCULATION OF UNUSED INCREMENT RATE IN
- 22 CERTAIN TAX YEARS. (a) Notwithstanding Section 26.012(22), until
- 23 December 31, 2024, for purposes of calculating the unused increment
- 24 rate:
- 25 (1) the aggregate rate by which a taxing unit's
- 26 rollback tax rate, calculated without regard to Section 26.012(22),
- 27 exceeded the taxing unit's adopted tax rate in preceding tax years
- 28 may include only the adopted tax rates for tax years that begin on
- 29 or after January 1, 2020; and
- 30 (2) the aggregate rate by which a taxing unit's adopted
- 31 tax rate exceeded the taxing unit's rollback tax rate, calculated

- 1 without regard to Section 26.012(22), in preceding tax years may
- 2 include only the adopted tax rates for tax years that begin on or
- 3 after January 1, 2020.
- 4 (b) This section expires December 31, 2024.
- 5 SECTION 27. The heading to Section 26.04, Tax Code, is
- 6 amended to read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 26.04. SUBMISSION OF ROLL TO GOVERNING BODY;
- 8 NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE] AND ROLLBACK TAX RATES.
- 9 SECTION 28. Section 26.04, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 10 Subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (e-1), (f), (g), (i), and (j) and
- 11 adding Subsections (b-1), (c-1), (d-1), (d-2), (d-3), (e-2), (e-3),
- 12 (e-4), (e-5), (h-1), and (h-2) to read as follows:
- 13 (b) The assessor shall submit the appraisal roll for the
- 14 taxing unit showing the total appraised, assessed, and taxable
- 15 values of all property and the total taxable value of new property
- 16 to the governing body of the taxing unit by August 1 or as soon
- 17 thereafter as practicable. By August 1 or as soon thereafter as
- 18 practicable, the taxing unit's collector shall certify [an estimate
- 19 of] the anticipated collection rate as calculated under Subsections
- 20 (h), (h-1), and (h-2) for the current year to the governing body.
- 21 If the collector certified an anticipated collection rate in the
- 22 preceding year and the actual collection rate in that year exceeded
- 23 the anticipated rate, the collector shall also certify the amount
- 24 of debt taxes collected in excess of the anticipated amount in the
- 25 preceding year.
- 26 (b-1) By August 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable, the
- 27 comptroller shall determine the revenue enrichment amount for the
- 28 current tax year and publish that amount in the Texas Register. The
- 29 revenue enrichment amount for the 2020 tax year is \$250,000. For
- 30 each succeeding tax year, the revenue enrichment amount is equal to
- 31 the revenue enrichment amount for the preceding tax year as

- 1 adjusted by the comptroller to reflect the inflation rate.
- 2 (c) After the assessor for the taxing unit submits the
- 3 appraisal roll for the taxing unit to the governing body of the
- 4 taxing unit as required by Subsection (b) and the comptroller
- 5 publishes the revenue enrichment amount for the current tax year as
- 6 required by Subsection (b-1), an [An] officer or employee
- 7 designated by the governing body shall calculate the no-new-revenue
- 8 [effective] tax rate and the rollback tax rate for the taxing unit,
- 9 where:
- 10 (1) "No-new-revenue [Effective] tax rate" means a rate
- 11 expressed in dollars per \$100 of taxable value calculated according
- 12 to the following formula:
- 13 <u>NO-NEW-REVENUE</u> [EFFECTIVE] TAX RATE = (LAST YEAR'S
- 14 LEVY LOST PROPERTY LEVY) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE -
- 15 NEW PROPERTY VALUE)
- 16 ; and
- 17 (2) "Rollback tax rate" means a rate expressed in
- 18 dollars per \$100 of taxable value calculated according to the
- 19 following formula:
- 20 ROLLBACK TAX RATE = (NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE]
- 21 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE x 1.06 [1.08]) +
- 22 <u>(CURRENT DEBT RATE + REVENUE ENRICHMENT RATE + UNUSED</u>
- 23 <u>INCREMENT RATE</u>)
- 24 (c-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
- 25 if the assessor for a taxing unit receives a certified estimate of
- 26 the taxable value of property in the taxing unit under Section
- 27 26.01(a-1), the officer or employee designated by the governing
- 28 body of the taxing unit shall calculate the no-new-revenue tax rate
- 29 and rollback tax rate using the certified estimate of taxable
- 30 value.
- 31 (d) The no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate for a county is

- 1 the sum of the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rates calculated for
- 2 each type of tax the county levies and the rollback tax rate for a
- 3 county is the sum of the rollback tax rates calculated for each type
- 4 of tax the county levies.
- 5 (d-1) The designated officer or employee shall use the tax
- 6 rate calculation forms prescribed by the comptroller under Section
- 7 5.07 in calculating the no-new-revenue tax rate and the rollback
- 8 tax rate.
- 9 (d-2) The designated officer or employee may not submit the
- 10 no-new-revenue tax rate and the rollback tax rate to the governing
- 11 body of the taxing unit and the taxing unit may not adopt a tax rate
- 12 until the designated officer or employee certifies on the tax rate
- 13 calculation forms that the designated officer or employee has
- 14 accurately calculated the tax rates and has used values that are the
- 15 same as the values shown in the taxing unit's certified appraisal
- 16 roll in performing the calculations.
- 17 (d-3) As soon as practicable after the designated officer or
- 18 employee calculates the no-new-revenue tax rate and the rollback
- 19 tax rate of the taxing unit, the designated officer or employee
- 20 shall submit the tax rate calculation forms used in calculating the
- 21 rates to the county assessor-collector for each county in which all
- 22 or part of the territory of the taxing unit is located.
- 23 (e) By August 7 or as soon thereafter as practicable, the
- 24 designated officer or employee shall:
- 25 (1) submit the rates to the governing body;
- 26 (2) [. He shall deliver by mail to each property owner
- 27 in the unit or] publish the rates in a newspaper having general
- 28 circulation in the county in which the taxing unit is located or
- 29 primarily located;
- 30 (3) post the rates in a prominent location on the
- 31 taxing unit's Internet website; and

- 1 (4) prepare and submit to the governing body [in the
- 2 form prescribed by the comptroller:
- 3 [(1) the effective tax rate, the rollback tax rate,
- 4 and an explanation of how they were calculated;
- 5 [(2) the estimated amount of interest and sinking fund
- 6 balances and the estimated amount of maintenance and operation or
- 7 general fund balances remaining at the end of the current fiscal
- 8 year that are not encumbered with or by corresponding existing debt
- 9 obligation;
- 10 [(3)] a schedule of the <u>taxing</u> unit's debt obligations
- 11 showing:
- 12 (A) the amount of principal and interest that
- 13 will be paid to service the taxing unit's debts in the next year
- 14 from property tax revenue, including payments of lawfully incurred
- 15 contractual obligations providing security for the payment of the
- 16 principal of and interest on bonds and other evidences of
- 17 indebtedness issued on behalf of the taxing unit by another
- 18 political subdivision and, if the taxing unit is created under
- 19 Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas
- 20 Constitution, payments on debts that the taxing unit anticipates to
- 21 incur in the next calendar year;
- 22 (B) the amount by which taxes imposed for debt
- 23 are to be increased because of the taxing unit's anticipated
- 24 collection rate; and
- 25 (C) the total of the amounts listed in Paragraphs
- 26 (A)-(B), less any amount collected in excess of the previous year's
- 27 anticipated collections certified as provided in Subsection (b)[$_{ au}$
- 28 [(4) the amount of additional sales and use tax
- 29 revenue anticipated in calculations under Section 26.041;
- 30 [(5) a statement that the adoption of a tax rate equal
- 31 to the effective tax rate would result in an increase or decrease.

- 1 as applicable, in the amount of taxes imposed by the unit as
- 2 compared to last year's levy, and the amount of the increase or
- 3 decrease;
- 4 [(6) in the year that a taxing unit calculates an
- 5 adjustment under Subsection (i) or (j), a schedule that includes
- 6 the following elements:
- 7 [(A) the name of the unit discontinuing the
- 8 department, function, or activity;
- 9 [.(B) the amount of property tax revenue spent by
- 10 the unit listed under Paragraph (A) to operate the discontinued
- 11 department, function, or activity in the 12 months preceding the
- 12 month in which the calculations required by this chapter are made;
- 13 and
- 14 [(C) the name of the unit that operates a
- 15 distinct department, function, or activity in all-or a majority of
- 16 the territory of a taxing unit that has discontinued operating the
- 17 distinct department, function, or activity; and
- 18 [(7) in the year following the year in which a taxing
- 19 unit raised its rollback rate as required by Subsection (j), a
- 20 schedule that includes the following elements:
- 21 [(A) the amount of property tax revenue spent-by
- 22 the unit to operate the department, function, or activity for which
- 23 the taxing unit raised the rollback rate as required by Subsection
- 24 (i) for the 12 months preceding the month in which the calculations
- 25 required by this chapter are made; and
- 26 [(B) the amount published by the unit in the
- 27 preceding tax year under Subdivision (6)(B)].
- 28 (e-1) The tax rate certification requirements imposed by
- 29 Subsection (d-2) and the notice requirements imposed by Subsections
- 30 $\underline{(e)(2)-(4)}$ [$\underline{(e)(1)-(6)}$] do not apply to a school district.
- 31 (e-2) By August 7 or as soon thereafter as practicable, the

- 1 chief appraiser of each appraisal district shall deliver by regular
- 2 mail or e-mail to each owner of property located in the appraisal
- 3 district a notice that the estimated amount of taxes to be imposed
- 4 on the owner's property by each taxing unit in which the property is
- 5 located may be found in the property tax database maintained by the
- 6 appraisal district under Section 26.17. The notice must include:
- 7 (1) a statement directing the property owner to an
- 8 Internet website from which the owner may access information
- 9 related to the actions taken or proposed to be taken by each taxing
- 10 unit in which the property is located that may affect the taxes
- 11 imposed on the owner's property;
- 12 (2) a statement that the property owner may request
- 13 from the county assessor-collector for the county in which the
- 14 property is located or, if the county assessor-collector does not
- 15 assess taxes for the county, the person who assesses taxes for the
- 16 county under Section 6.24(b), contact information for the assessor
- 17 for each taxing unit in which the property is located, who must
- 18 provide the information described by this subsection to the owner
- 19 on request; and
- 20 (3) the name, address, and telephone number of the
- 21 county assessor-collector for the county in which the property is
- 22 located or, if the county assessor-collector does not assess taxes
- 23 for the county, the person who assesses taxes for the county under
- 24 Section 6.24(b).
- 25 (e-3) The statement described by Subsection (e-2)(1) must
- 26 include a heading that is in bold, capital letters in type larger
- 27 than that used in the other provisions of the notice.
- 28 (e-4) The comptroller:
- 29 (1) with the advice of the property tax administration
- 30 advisory board, shall adopt rules prescribing the form of the
- 31 notice required by Subsection (e-2); and

- 1 (2) may adopt rules regarding the format and delivery
- 2 of the notice.
- 3 (e-5) The governing body of a taxing unit shall include as
- 4 an appendix to the taxing unit's budget for a fiscal year the tax
- 5 rate calculation forms used by the designated officer or employee
- 6 of the taxing unit to calculate the no-new-revenue tax rate and the
- 7 rollback tax rate of the taxing unit for the tax year in which the
- 8 fiscal year begins.
- 9 (f) If as a result of consolidation of taxing units a taxing
- 10 unit includes territory that was in two or more taxing units in the
- 11 preceding year, the amount of taxes imposed in each in the preceding
- 12 year is combined for purposes of calculating the <u>no-new-revenue</u>
- 13 [effective] and rollback tax rates under this section.
- 14 (g) A person who owns taxable property is entitled to an
- 15 injunction prohibiting the taxing unit in which the property is
- 16 taxable from adopting a tax rate if the assessor or designated
- 17 officer or employee of the taxing unit, the chief appraiser of the
- 18 applicable appraisal district, or the taxing unit, as applicable,
- 19 has not complied with the computation, [or] publication, or posting
- 20 requirements of this section or Section 26.16, 26.17, or 26.18 [and
- 21 the failure to comply was not in good faith]. It is a defense in an
- 22 action for an injunction under this subsection that the failure to
- 23 comply was in good faith.
- 24 (h-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (h), if the anticipated
- 25 <u>collection</u> rate of a taxing unit as calculated under that
- 26 <u>subsection</u> is lower than the lowest actual collection rate of the
- 27 taxing unit for any of the preceding three years, the anticipated
- 28 collection rate of the taxing unit for purposes of this section is
- 29 equal to the lowest actual collection rate of the taxing unit for
- 30 any of the preceding three years.
- 31 (h-2) The anticipated collection rate of a taxing unit for

- 1 purposes of this section is the rate calculated under Subsection
- 2 (h) as modified by Subsection (h-1), if applicable, regardless of
- 3 whether that rate exceeds 100 percent.
- (i) This subsection applies to a taxing unit that has agreed 4 by written contract to transfer a distinct department, function, or 5 activity to another taxing unit and discontinues operating that 6 distinct department, function, or activity if the operation of that department, function, or activity in all or a majority of the 8 territory of the taxing unit is continued by another existing 9 taxing unit or by a new taxing unit. The rollback tax rate of a 10 taxing unit to which this subsection applies in the first tax year 11 in which a budget is adopted that does not allocate revenue to the 12 discontinued department, function, or activity is calculated as 13 14 otherwise provided by this section, except that last year's levy used to calculate the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance and 15 operations rate of the taxing unit is reduced by the amount of 16 maintenance and operations tax revenue spent by the taxing unit to 17 operate the department, function, or activity for the 12 months 18 preceding the month in which the calculations required by this 19 chapter are made and in which the taxing unit operated the 20 21 discontinued department, function, or activity. If the taxing unit 22 did not operate that department, function, or activity for the full 12 months preceding the month in which the calculations required by 23 this chapter are made, the taxing unit shall reduce last year's levy 24 25 used for calculating the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance 26 and operations rate of the taxing unit by the amount of the revenue spent in the last full fiscal year in which the taxing unit operated 27 28 the discontinued department, function, or activity.
- (j) This subsection applies to a taxing unit that had agreed 30 by written contract to accept the transfer of a distinct 31 department, function, or activity from another taxing unit and

- 1 operates a distinct department, function, or activity if the operation of a substantially similar department, function, or 2 3 activity in all or a majority of the territory of the taxing unit 4 has been discontinued by another taxing unit, including a dissolved 5 taxing unit. The rollback tax rate of a taxing unit to which this subsection applies in the first tax year after the other taxing unit 6 7 discontinued the substantially similar department, function, or activity in which a budget is adopted that allocates revenue to the 8 department, function, or activity is calculated as otherwise 9 10 provided by this section, except that last year's levy used to 11 calculate the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance 12 operations rate of the taxing unit is increased by the amount of 13 maintenance and operations tax revenue spent by the taxing unit that discontinued operating the substantially similar department, 14 function, or activity to operate that department, function, or 15 16 activity for the 12 months preceding the month in which the calculations required by this chapter are made and in which the 17 18 taxing unit operated the discontinued department, function, or 19 activity. If the taxing unit did not operate the discontinued department, function, or activity for the full 12 months preceding 20 the month in which the calculations required by this chapter are 21 made, the taxing unit may increase last year's levy used to 22 23 calculate the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance 24 operations rate by an amount not to exceed the amount of property 25 tax revenue spent by the discontinuing taxing unit to operate the discontinued department, function, or activity in the last full 26 fiscal year in which the discontinuing taxing unit operated the 27 28 department, function, or activity.
- 29 SECTION 29. Sections 26.041(a), (b), (c), (e), (g), and
- 30 (h), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 31 (a) In the first year in which an additional sales and use

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1 tax is required to be collected, the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] tax
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- 2 rate and rollback tax rate for the taxing unit are calculated
- 3 according to the following formulas:
- 4 NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE] TAX RATE = [(LAST YEAR'S
- 5 LEVY LOST PROPERTY LEVY) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE NEW
- 6 PROPERTY VALUE)] SALES TAX GAIN RATE
- 7 and
- 8 ROLLBACK TAX RATE = (NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE]
- 9 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE x 1.06 [1.08]) +
- 10 (CURRENT DEBT RATE + REVENUE ENRICHMENT RATE + UNUSED
- 11 <u>INCREMENT RATE</u> SALES TAX GAIN RATE)
- 12 where "sales tax gain rate" means a number expressed in dollars per
- 13 \$100 of taxable value, calculated by dividing the revenue that will
- 14 be generated by the additional sales and use tax in the following
- 15 year as calculated under Subsection (d) [of this section] by the
- 16 current total value.
- 17 (b) Except as provided by Subsections (a) and (c) [of this
- 18 section], in a year in which a taxing unit imposes an additional
- 19 sales and use tax, the rollback tax rate for the taxing unit is
- 20 calculated according to the following formula, regardless of
- 21 whether the taxing unit levied a property tax in the preceding year:
- 22 ROLLBACK TAX RATE = [(LAST YEAR'S MAINTENANCE AND
- OPERATIONS EXPENSE x 1.06 [1.08]) / ([TOTAL] CURRENT
- 24 TOTAL VALUE NEW PROPERTY VALUE)] + (CURRENT DEBT RATE
- + REVENUE ENRICHMENT RATE + UNUSED INCREMENT RATE -
- 26 SALES TAX REVENUE RATE)
- 27 where "last year's maintenance and operations expense" means the
- 28 amount spent for maintenance and operations from property tax and
- 29 additional sales and use tax revenues in the preceding year, and
- 30 "sales tax revenue rate" means a number expressed in dollars per
- 31 \$100 of taxable value, calculated by dividing the revenue that will

- 1 be generated by the additional sales and use tax in the current year
- 2 as calculated under Subsection (d) [of this section] by the current
- 3 total value.
- 4 (c) In a year in which a taxing unit that has been imposing
- 5 an additional sales and use tax ceases to impose an additional sales
- 6 and use $tax_{\underline{\prime}}$ the $\underline{no-new-revenue}$ [effective] tax rate and rollback
- 7 tax rate for the taxing unit are calculated according to the
- 8 following formulas:
- 9 NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE] TAX RATE = [(LAST YEAR'S
- 10 LEVY LOST PROPERTY LEVY) / (CURRENT TOTAL VALUE NEW
- PROPERTY VALUE)] + SALES TAX LOSS RATE
- 12 and
- ROLLBACK TAX RATE = [(LAST YEAR'S MAINTENANCE AND
- OPERATIONS EXPENSE x 1.06 [1.08]) / ([TOTAL] CURRENT
- 15 TOTAL VALUE NEW PROPERTY VALUE)] + (CURRENT DEBT RATE
- + REVENUE ENRICHMENT RATE + UNUSED INCREMENT RATE)
- 17 where "sales tax loss rate" means a number expressed in dollars per
- 18 \$100 of taxable value, calculated by dividing the amount of sales
- 19 and use tax revenue generated in the last four quarters for which
- 20 the information is available by the current total value and "last
- 21 year's maintenance and operations expense" means the amount spent
- 22 for maintenance and operations from property tax and additional
- 23 sales and use tax revenues in the preceding year.
- 24 (e) If a city that imposes an additional sales and use tax
- 25 receives payments under the terms of a contract executed before
- 26 January 1, 1986, in which the city agrees not to annex certain
- 27 property or a certain area and the owners or lessees of the property
- 28 or of property in the area agree to pay at least annually to the city
- 29 an amount determined by reference to all or a percentage of the
- 30 property tax rate of the city and all or a part of the value of the
- 31 property subject to the agreement or included in the area subject to

- the agreement, the governing body, by order adopted by a majority vote of the governing body, may direct the designated officer or employee to add to the no-new-revenue [effective] and rollback tax 3 rates the amount that, when applied to the total taxable value submitted to the governing body, would produce an amount of taxes 5 equal to the difference between the total amount of payments for the tax year under contracts described by this subsection under the rollback tax rate calculated under this section and the total 8 9 amount of payments for the tax year that would have been obligated 10 to the city if the city had not adopted an additional sales and use 11 tax.
- If the rate of the additional sales and use tax is 12 (g) increased, the designated officer or employee shall make two 13 14 projections, in the manner provided by Subsection (d) [of this section], of the revenue generated by the additional sales and use 15 16 tax in the following year. The first projection must take into 17 account the increase and the second projection must not take into account the increase. The designated officer or employee shall 18 19 then subtract the amount of the result of the second projection from 20 the amount of the result of the first projection to determine the revenue generated as a result of the increase in the additional 21 22 sales and use tax. In the first year in which an additional sales 23 and use tax is increased, the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate for the taxing unit is the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate 24 before the increase minus a number the numerator of which is the 25 revenue generated as a result of the increase in the additional 26 27 sales and use tax, as determined under this subsection, and the 28 denominator of which is the current total value minus the new 29 property value.
- 30 (h) If the rate of the additional sales and use tax is 31 decreased, the designated officer or employee shall make two

- 1 projections, in the manner provided by Subsection (d) [of this 2 section], of the revenue generated by the additional sales and use 3 tax in the following year. The first projection must take into account the decrease and the second projection must not take into 4 5 account the decrease. The <u>designated</u> officer or employee shall 6 then subtract the amount of the result of the first projection from the amount of the result of the second projection to determine the 7 revenue lost as a result of the decrease in the additional sales and 9 use tax. In the first year in which an additional sales and use tax 10 is decreased, the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate for the 11 taxing unit is the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate before the 12 decrease plus a number the numerator of which is the revenue lost as a result of the decrease in the additional sales and use tax, as 13
- SECTION 30. The heading to Section 26.043, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

the current total value minus the new property value.

determined under this subsection, and the denominator of which is

- Sec. 26.043. <u>ROLLBACK AND NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE]</u> TAX
 19 RATES [RATE] IN CITY IMPOSING MASS TRANSIT SALES AND USE TAX.
- 20 SECTION 31. Sections 26.043(a) and (b), Tax Code, are 21 amended to read as follows:
- 22 In the tax year in which a city has set an election on 23 the question of whether to impose a local sales and use tax under 24 Subchapter H, Chapter 453, Transportation Code, the officer or 25 employee designated to make the calculations provided by Section 26 26.04 may not make those calculations until the outcome of the 27 election is determined. If the election is determined in favor of the imposition of the tax, the <u>designated officer</u> or employee 28 29 [representative] shall subtract from the city's rollback and 30 no-new-revenue [effective] tax rates the amount that, if applied to 31 the city's current total value, would impose an amount equal to the

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- 1 amount of property taxes budgeted in the current tax year to pay for
- 2 expenses related to mass transit services.
- 3 (b) In a tax year to which this section applies, a reference
- 4 in this chapter to the city's no-new-revenue [effective] or
- 5 rollback tax rate refers to that rate as adjusted under this
- 6 section.
- 7 SECTION 32. The heading to Section 26.044, Tax Code, is
- 8 amended to read as follows:
- 9 Sec. 26.044. NO-NEW-REVENUE [EFFECTIVE] TAX RATE TO PAY FOR
- 10 STATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANDATE.
- SECTION 33. Sections 26.044(a), (b), and (c), Tax Code, are
- 12 amended to read as follows:
- 13 (a) The first time that a county adopts a tax rate after
- 14 September 1, 1991, in which the state criminal justice mandate
- 15 applies to the county, the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance
- 16 and operation rate for the county is increased by the rate
- 17 calculated according to the following formula:
- 18 (State Criminal Justice Mandate) / (Current Total
- 20 (b) In the second and subsequent years that a county adopts
- 21 a tax rate, if the amount spent by the county for the state criminal
- 22 justice mandate increased over the previous year, the
- 23 no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance and operation rate for the
- 24 county is increased by the rate calculated according to the
- 25 following formula:
- 26 (This Year's State Criminal Justice Mandate Previous
- Year's State Criminal Justice Mandate) / (Current
- 28 Total Value New Property Value)
- (c) The county shall include a notice of the increase in the
- 30 <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] maintenance and operation rate provided
- 31 by this section, including a description and amount of the state

- 1 criminal justice mandate, in the information published under
- 2 Section 26.04(e) and, as applicable, in the notice prescribed by
- 3 Section 26.06 or 26.061 [26.06(b) of this code].
- 4 SECTION 34. Sections 26.0441(a), (b), and (c), Tax Code,
- 5 are amended to read as follows:
- 6 (a) In the first tax year in which a taxing unit adopts a tax
- 7 rate after January 1, 2000, and in which the enhanced minimum
- 8 eligibility standards for indigent health care established under
- 9 Section 61.006, Health and Safety Code, apply to the taxing unit,
- 10 the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance and operations rate for
- 11 the taxing unit is increased by the rate computed according to the
- 12 following formula:
- 13 Amount of Increase = Enhanced Indigent Health Care
- 14 Expenditures / (Current Total Value New Property
- 15 Value)
- 16 (b) In each subsequent tax year, if the taxing unit's
- 17 enhanced indigent health care expenses exceed the amount of those
- 18 expenses for the preceding year, the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective]
- 19 maintenance and operations rate for the taxing unit is increased by
- 20 the rate computed according to the following formula:
- 21 Amount of Increase = (Current Tax Year's Enhanced
- 22 Indigent Health Care Expenditures Preceding Tax
- Year's Indigent Health Care Expenditures) / (Current
- 24 Total Value New Property Value)
- 25 (c) The taxing unit shall include a notice of the increase
- 26 in its <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] maintenance and operations rate
- 27 provided by this section, including a brief description and the
- 28 amount of the enhanced indigent health care expenditures, in the
- 29 information published under Section 26.04(e) and, as $[\frac{\pm f}{2}]$
- 30 applicable, in the notice prescribed by Section 26.06 or 26.061
- [26.06(b)].

- 1 SECTION 35. Section 26.05, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 2 Subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (g) and adding Subsections
- 3 (d-1), (d-2), and (e-1) to read as follows:
- 4 (a) The governing body of each taxing unit[, before the
- 5 later of September 30 or the 60th day after the date the certified
- 6 appraisal roll is received by the taxing unit, shall adopt a tax
- 7 rate for the current tax year and shall notify the assessor for the
- 8 taxing unit of the rate adopted. The governing body must adopt a
- 9 tax rate before the later of September 30 or the 60th day after the
- 10 date the certified appraisal roll is received by the taxing unit,
- 11 except that the governing body must adopt a tax rate that exceeds
- 12 the rollback tax rate not later than the 71st day before the next
- 13 uniform election date prescribed by Section 41.001, Election Code,
- 14 that occurs in November of that year. The tax rate consists of two
- 15 components, each of which must be approved separately. The
- 16 components are:
- 17 (1) for a taxing unit other than a school district, the
- 18 rate that, if applied to the total taxable value, will impose the
- 19 total amount <u>described by [published under]</u> Section 26.04(e)(4)(C)
- [26.04(e)(3)(C)], less any amount of additional sales and use tax
- 21 revenue that will be used to pay debt service, or, for a school
- 22 district, the rate calculated under Section
- 23 44.004(c)(5)(A)(ii)(b), Education Code; and
- (2) the rate that, if applied to the total taxable
- 25 value, will impose the amount of taxes needed to fund maintenance
- 26 and operation expenditures of the taxing unit for the next year.
- 27 (b) A taxing unit may not impose property taxes in any year
- 28 until the governing body has adopted a tax rate for that year, and
- 29 the annual tax rate must be set by ordinance, resolution, or order,
- 30 depending on the method prescribed by law for adoption of a law by
- 31 the governing body. The vote on the ordinance, resolution, or order

1 setting the tax rate must be separate from the vote adopting the budget. For a taxing unit other than a school district, the vote on 2 the ordinance, resolution, or order setting a tax rate that exceeds 3 the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate must be a record vote, and 5 at least 60 percent of the members of the governing body must vote in favor of the ordinance, resolution, or order. For a school 6 district, the vote on the ordinance, resolution, or order setting a 8 tax rate that exceeds the sum of the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance and operations tax rate of the district as determined 9 10 under Section 26.08(i) and the district's current debt rate must be a record vote, and at least 60 percent of the members of the 11 governing body must vote in favor of the ordinance, resolution, or 12 order. A motion to adopt an ordinance, resolution, or order setting 13 a tax rate that exceeds the $\underline{\text{no-new-revenue}}$ [effective] tax rate 14 15 must be made in the following form: "I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of (specify tax 16 rate), which is effectively a (insert percentage by which the 17 18 proposed tax rate exceeds the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] tax rate) 19 percent increase in the tax rate." If the ordinance, resolution, or 20 order sets a tax rate that, if applied to the total taxable value, 21 will impose an amount of taxes to fund maintenance and operation 22 expenditures of the taxing unit that exceeds the amount of taxes imposed for that purpose in the preceding year, the taxing unit 23 24 must:

- 25 (1) include in the ordinance, resolution, or order in
- 26 type larger than the type used in any other portion of the document:
- 27 (A) the following statement: "THIS TAX RATE WILL
- 28 RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S
- 29 TAX RATE."; and
- 30 (B) if the tax rate exceeds the <u>no-new-revenue</u>
- 31 [effective] maintenance and operations rate, the following

- 1 statement: "THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY (INSERT
- 2 PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE TAX RATE EXCEEDS THE NO-NEW-REVENUE
- 3 [EFFECTIVE] MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE) PERCENT AND WILL RAISE
- 4 TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY
- 5 APPROXIMATELY \$(Insert amount)."; and
- 6 (2) include on the home page of $\underline{\text{the}}$ [any] Internet
- 7 website of [operated by] the taxing unit:
- 8 (A) the following statement: "(Insert name of
- 9 taxing unit) ADOPTED A TAX RATE THAT WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR
- 10 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE"; and
- 11 (B) if the tax rate exceeds the <u>no-new-revenue</u>
- 12 [effective] maintenance and operations rate, the following
- 13 statement: "THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY (INSERT
- 14 PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE TAX RATE EXCEEDS THE NO-NEW-REVENUE
- 15 [EFFECTIVE] MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE) PERCENT AND WILL RAISE
- 16 TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY
- 17 APPROXIMATELY \$(Insert amount)."
- 18 (c) If the governing body of a taxing unit does not adopt a
- 19 tax rate before the date required by Subsection (a), the tax rate
- 20 for the taxing unit for that tax year is the lower of the
- 21 <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] tax rate calculated for that tax year or
- 22 the tax rate adopted by the taxing unit for the preceding tax year.
- 23 A tax rate established by this subsection is treated as an adopted
- 24 tax rate. Before the fifth day after the establishment of a tax
- 25 rate by this subsection, the governing body of the taxing unit must
- 26 ratify the applicable tax rate in the manner required by Subsection
- 27 (b).
- (d) The governing body of a taxing unit other than a school
- 29 district may not adopt a tax rate that exceeds the lower of the
- 30 rollback tax rate or the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate
- 31 calculated as provided by this chapter until the governing body has

- 1 held <u>a public hearing</u> [two public hearings] on the proposed tax rate
- 2 and has otherwise complied with Section 26.06 and Section 26.065.
- 3 The governing body of a taxing unit shall reduce a tax rate set by
- 4 law or by vote of the electorate to the lower of the rollback tax
- 5 rate or the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate and may not adopt a
- 6 higher rate unless it first complies with Section 26.06.
- 7 (d-1) The governing body of a taxing unit other than a
- 8 school district may not hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate
- 9 or a public meeting to adopt a tax rate until the fifth business day
- 10 after the date the chief appraiser of each appraisal district in
- 11 which the taxing unit participates has:
- 12 <u>(1) delivered the notice required by Section</u>
- 13 26.04(e-2); and
- 14 (2) complied with Section 26.17(f).
- 15 (d-2) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the governing body of
- 16 a taxing unit other than a school district may not adopt a tax rate
- 17 until the chief appraiser of each appraisal district in which the
- 18 taxing unit participates has complied with Subsection (d-1).
- 19 (e) A person who owns taxable property is entitled to an
- 20 injunction restraining the collection of taxes by a taxing unit in
- 21 which the property is taxable if the taxing unit has not complied
- 22 with the requirements of this section or Section 26.04 [and the
- 23 failure to comply was not in good faith]. It is a defense in an
- 24 action for an injunction under this subsection that the failure to
- 25 comply was in good faith. An action to enjoin the collection of
- 26 taxes must be filed not later than the 15th day after the date the
- 27 taxing unit adopts a tax rate. A property owner is not required to
- 28 pay the taxes imposed by a taxing unit on the owner's property while
- 29 an action filed by the property owner to enjoin the collection of
- 30 taxes imposed by the taxing unit on the owner's property is pending.
- 31 If the property owner pays the taxes and subsequently prevails in

- 1 the action, the property owner is entitled to a refund of the taxes
- 2 paid, together with reasonable attorney's fees and court costs.
- 3 The property owner is not required to apply to the collector for the
- 4 taxing unit to receive the refund [prior to the date a taxing unit
- 5 delivers substantially all of its tax bills].
- (e-1) The governing body of a taxing unit that imposes an 6 7 additional sales and use tax may not adopt the component of the tax 8 rate of the taxing unit described by Subsection (a)(1) of this section until the chief financial officer or the auditor for the 9 10 taxing unit submits to the governing body of the taxing unit a written certification that the amount of additional sales and use 11 12 tax revenue that will be used to pay debt service has been deducted from the total amount described by Section 26.04(e)(4)(C) as 13 required by Subsection (a)(1) of this section. The comptroller 14

shall prescribe the form of the certification required by this

subsection and the manner in which it is required to be submitted.

- 17 (g) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the governing body of a school district that elects to adopt a tax rate before the adoption 18 19 of a budget for the fiscal year that begins in the current tax year 20 may adopt a tax rate for the current tax year before receipt of the certified appraisal roll for the school district if the chief 21 22 appraiser of the appraisal district in which the school district 23 participates has certified to the assessor for the school district an estimate of the taxable value of property in the school district 24
- 25 as provided by Section 26.01(e). If a school district adopts a tax
- 26 rate under this subsection, the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] tax rate
- 27 and the rollback tax rate of the district shall be calculated based
- 28 on the certified estimate of taxable value.
- 29 SECTION 36. Section 26.052, Tax Code, is amended by
- 30 amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (f) to read as
- 31 follows:

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- 1 (e) Public notice provided under Subsection (c) must
- 2 specify:
- 3 (1) the tax rate that the governing body proposes to
- 4 adopt;
- 5 (2) the date, time, and location of the meeting of the
- 6 governing body of the taxing unit at which the governing body will
- 7 consider adopting the proposed tax rate; and
- 8 (3) if the proposed tax rate for the taxing unit
- 9 exceeds the taxing unit's no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate
- 10 calculated as provided by Section 26.04, a statement substantially
- 11 identical to the following: "The proposed tax rate would increase
- 12 total taxes in (name of taxing unit) by (percentage by which the
- 13 proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue [effective] tax
- 14 rate)."
- 15 (f) A taxing unit to which this section applies that elects
- 16 to provide public notice of its proposed tax rate under Subsection
- 17 (c)(2) must also provide public notice of its proposed tax rate by
- 18 posting notice of the proposed tax rate, including the information
- 19 prescribed by Subsection (e), prominently on the home page of the
- 20 Internet website of the taxing unit.
- 21 SECTION 37. Section 26.06, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 22 Subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) and adding Subsections
- 23 (b-1), (b-2), (b-3), and (b-4) to read as follows:
- 24 (a) A public hearing required by Section 26.05 may not be
- 25 held before the seventh day after the date the notice of the public
- 26 hearing is given. The [second hearing may not be held earlier than
- 27 the third day after the date of the first hearing. Each] hearing
- 28 must be on a weekday that is not a public holiday. The [Each]
- 29 hearing must be held inside the boundaries of the unit in a publicly
- 30 owned building or, if a suitable publicly owned building is not
- 31 available, in a suitable building to which the public normally has

- access. At the hearing [hearings], the governing body must afford 1
- adequate opportunity for proponents and opponents of the tax 2
- increase to present their views. 3

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- (b) The notice of a public hearing may not be smaller than 4
- one-quarter page of a standard-size or a tabloid-size newspaper, 5
- and the headline on the notice must be in 24-point or larger type. 6
- [The notice must contain a statement in the following form: 7

["NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE 8

["The (name of the taxing unit) will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the 10 tax roll in the preceding tax year by (percentage by which proposed 11 tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate 12 13 calculated under this chapter) percent. Your individual taxes may 14 increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the 15 change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that 16 is adopted. 17

["The first public hearing will be held on (date and time) at (meeting place).

["The second public hearing will be held on (date and time) at (meeting place).

["(Names of all members of the governing body, showing how each voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase or, if one or more were absent, indicating the absences.)

["The average taxable value of a residence homestead in (name of taxing unit) last year was \$____ (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). Based on 30 last year's tax rate of \$____ (preceding year's adopted tax rate) per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on

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the average home was $____ (tax on average taxable value of a
   residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year,
   disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to
 3
   disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).
4
5
          ["The average taxable value of a residence homestead in (name
   of taxing unit) this year is $____ (average taxable value of a
6
   residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year,
7
   disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to
8
   disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). If the
9
   governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of $___
10
11
   (effective tax rate) per $100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes
   imposed this year on the average home would be $____ (tax on average
12
    taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the
13
   current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions
14
   available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or
15
   older).
16
          ["If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of $____
17
   (proposed tax rate) per $100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes
18
    imposed this year on the average home would be $____ (tax on the
19
   average taxable value of a residence in the taxing unit for the
20
    current year disregarding residence homestead exemptions available
21
    only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).
22
          ["Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings
23
24
    and express their views."]
          (b-1) If the proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue
25
    tax rate and the rollback tax rate of the taxing unit, the notice
26
    must contain a statement in the following form:
27
28
                 "NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE
29
          "PROPOSED TAX RATE
                                                 per $100
30
          "NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE
                                                 <u>per</u> $100
          "ROLLBACK TAX RATE
                                                 per $100
31
                                      $_
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- 1 "The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the (current
- 2 tax year) tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax
- 3 revenue for (name of taxing unit) from the same properties in both
- 4 the (preceding tax year) tax year and the (current tax year) tax
- 5 year.
- 6 "The rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate that (name of
- 7 taxing unit) may adopt without holding an election to ratify the
- 8 rate.
- 9 "The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax
- 10 rate. This means that (name of taxing unit) is proposing to
- 11 increase property taxes for the (current tax year) tax year.
- "A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on
- 13 (date and time) at (meeting place).
- "The proposed tax rate is also greater than the rollback tax
- 15 rate. If (name of taxing unit) adopts the proposed tax rate, (name
- 16 of taxing unit) is required to hold an election so that the voters
- 17 may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the
- 18 voters reject the proposed tax rate, the (name of taxing unit) will
- 19 be required to adopt a new tax rate that is not greater than the
- 20 rollback tax rate. The election will be held on (date of election).
- 21 You may contact the (name of office responsible for administering
- 22 the election) for information about voting locations. The hours of
- 23 voting on election day are (voting hours).
- "Your taxes owed under any of the tax rates mentioned above
- 25 can be calculated as follows:
- 26 "Property tax amount = tax rate x taxable value of your
- 27 property / 100
- "(Names of all members of the governing body, showing how
- 29 each voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase or, if one
- 30 or more were absent, indicating the absences.)"
- 31 (b-2) If the proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue

- 1 tax rate but does not exceed the rollback tax rate of the taxing
- unit, the notice must contain a statement in the following form:
- 3 "NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE
- 4 "PROPOSED TAX RATE \$ per \$100
- 5 "NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE \$ per \$100
- 6 "ROLLBACK TAX RATE \$ per \$100
- 7 "The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the (current
- 8 tax year) tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax
- 9 revenue for (name of taxing unit) from the same properties in both
- 10 the (preceding tax year) tax year and the (current tax year) tax
- 11 year.
- "The rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate that (name of
- 13 taxing unit) may adopt without holding an election to ratify the
- 14 <u>rate</u>.
- "The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax
- 16 rate. This means that (name of taxing unit) is proposing to
- increase property taxes for the (current tax year) tax year.
- 18 "A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on
- 19 (date and time) at (meeting place).
- The proposed tax rate is not greater than the rollback tax
- 21 rate. As a result, (name of taxing unit) is not required to hold an
- 22 election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate.
- 23 However, you may express your support for or opposition to the
- 24 proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the (name of
- 25 governing body) of (name of taxing unit) at their offices or by
- 26 attending the public hearing mentioned above.
- 27 <u>"Your taxes owed under any of the tax rates mentioned above</u>
- 28 can be calculated as follows:
- 29 <u>"Property tax amount = tax rate x taxable value of your</u>
- 30 property / 100
- 31 "(Names of all members of the governing body, showing how

- 1 each voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase or, if one
- 2 or more were absent, indicating the absences.)"
- 3 (b-3) If the proposed tax rate does not exceed the
- 4 no-new-revenue tax rate but exceeds the rollback tax rate of the
- 5 taxing unit, the notice must contain a statement in the following
- 6 form:
- 7 "NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE
- 8 PROPOSED TAX RATE \$_____ per \$100
- 9 "NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE \$_____ per \$100
- 10 "ROLLBACK TAX RATE \$_____ per \$100
- "The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the (current
- 12 tax year) tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax
- 13 revenue for (name of taxing unit) from the same properties in both
- 14 the (preceding tax year) tax year and the (current tax year) tax
- 15 year.
- "The rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate that (name of
- 17 taxing unit) may adopt without holding an election to ratify the
- 18 rate.
- "The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue
- 20 tax rate. This means that (name of taxing unit) is not proposing to
- 21 <u>increase property taxes for the (current tax year) tax year.</u>
- 22 "A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on
- 23 (date and time) at (meeting place).
- The proposed tax rate is greater than the rollback tax rate.
- 25 If (name of taxing unit) adopts the proposed tax rate, (name of
- 26 taxing unit) is required to hold an election so that the voters may
- 27 accept or reject the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters
- 28 reject the proposed tax rate, the (name of taxing unit) will be
- 29 required to adopt a new tax rate that is not greater than the
- 30 rollback tax rate. The election will be held on (date of election).
- 31 You may contact the (name of office responsible for administering

- 1 the election) for information about voting locations. The hours of
- 2 voting on election day are (voting hours).
- 3 "Your taxes owed under any of the tax rates mentioned above
- 4 can be calculated as follows:
- 5 "Property tax amount = tax rate x taxable value of your
- 6 property / 100
- 7 "(Names of all members of the governing body, showing how
- 8 each voted on the proposal to consider the tax rate or, if one or
- 9 more were absent, indicating the absences.)"
- 10 (b-4) In addition to including the information described by
- 11 Subsection (b-1), (b-2), or (b-3), as applicable, the notice must
- 12 include the information described by Section 26.062.
- 13 (c) The notice of a public hearing under this section may be
- 14 delivered by mail to each property owner in the taxing unit, or may
- 15 be published in a newspaper. If the notice is published in a
- 16 newspaper, it may not be in the part of the paper in which legal
- 17 notices and classified advertisements appear. If the taxing unit
- 18 <u>publishes the notice in a newspaper</u> [operates an Internet website],
- 19 the taxing unit must also post the notice prominently on the home
- 20 page of the Internet website of the taxing unit [must be posted on
- 21 the website] from the date the notice is first published until the
- 22 [second] public hearing is concluded.
- 23 (d) The governing body may vote on the proposed tax rate at
- 24 the public hearing. If the governing body does not vote on the
- 25 proposed tax rate at the public hearing, [At the public hearings]
- 26 the governing body shall announce at the public hearing the date,
- 27 time, and place of the meeting at which it will vote on the proposed
- 28 tax rate and, after the hearing, [. After each hearing the
- 29 governing body] shall give notice of the meeting [at which it will
- 30 vote on the proposed tax rate and the notice shall be] in the same
- 31 form as prescribed by Subsections (b) and (c), except that the

- 1 notice [it] must state the following:
- 2 "NOTICE OF TAX REVENUE INCREASE
- 3 "The (name of the taxing unit) conducted a public hearing
- 4 [hearings] on (date of [first] hearing) [and (date of second
- 5 hearing)] on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the
- 6 (name of the taxing unit) from properties on the tax roll in the
- 7 preceding year by (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds
- 8 lower of rollback tax rate or no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate
- 9 calculated under this chapter) percent.
- "The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last
- 11 year's tax rate of (insert tax rate for the preceding year) for each
- 12 \$100 of taxable value was (insert total amount of taxes imposed in
- 13 the preceding year).
- "The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the
- 15 proposed tax rate of (insert proposed tax rate) for each \$100 of
- 16 taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property
- 17 added to the tax roll this year, is (insert amount computed by
- 18 multiplying proposed tax rate by the difference between current
- 19 total value and new property value).
- 20 "The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the
- 21 proposed tax rate of (insert proposed tax rate) for each \$100 of
- 22 taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property
- 23 added to the tax roll this year, is (insert amount computed by
- 24 multiplying proposed tax rate by current total value).
- 25 "The (governing body of the taxing unit) is scheduled to vote
- 26 on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public
- 27 meeting to be held on (date of meeting) at (location of meeting,
- 28 including mailing address) at (time of meeting).
- 29 "The (governing body of the taxing unit) proposes to use the
- 30 increase in total tax revenue for the purpose of (description of
- 31 purpose of increase)."

1 (e) \underline{A} [The] meeting to vote on the tax increase for which 2 notice is required to be provided under Subsection (d) may not be 3 held [earlier than the third day or] later than the seventh [14th] day after the date of the [second] public hearing. The meeting must 4 5 be held inside the boundaries of the taxing unit in a publicly owned building or, if a suitable publicly owned building is not 6 7 available, in a suitable building to which the public normally has access. If the governing body does not adopt a tax rate that 8 exceeds the lower of the rollback tax rate or the no-new-revenue 9 10 [effective] tax rate by the seventh [14th] day, it must give a new 11 notice under Subsection (d) before it may adopt a rate that exceeds the lower of the rollback tax rate or the no-new-revenue 12 13 [effective] tax rate. 14 SECTION 38. Chapter 26, Tax Code, is amended by adding 15 Sections 26.061 and 26.062 to read as follows: Sec. 26.061. NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON PROPOSED TAX RATE 16 17 THAT DOES NOT EXCEED LOWER OF NO-NEW-REVENUE OR ROLLBACK TAX RATE. (a) This section applies only to the governing body of a taxing 18 19 unit other than a school district that proposes to adopt a tax rate 20 that does not exceed the lower of the no-new-revenue tax rate or the rollback tax rate calculated as provided by this chapter. 21 22 (b) The notice of the meeting at which the governing body of 23 the taxing unit will vote on the proposed tax rate must contain a 24 statement in the following form: 25 "NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON TAX RATE \$_____per \$100 26 "PROPOSED TAX RATE 27 "NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE \$_____ per \$100 28 "ROLLBACK TAX RATE _____ per \$100

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tax year) tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax

revenue for (name of taxing unit) from the same properties in both

"The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the (current

- 1 the (preceding tax year) tax year and the (current tax year) tax
- 2 year.
- 3 "The rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate that (name of
- 4 taxing unit) may adopt without holding an election to ratify the
- 5 <u>rate.</u>
- 6 "The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue
- 7 tax rate. This means that (name of taxing unit) is not proposing to
- 8 increase property taxes for the (current tax year) tax year.
- 9 "A public meeting to vote on the proposed tax rate will be
- 10 held on (date and time) at (meeting place).
- "The proposed tax rate is also not greater than the rollback
- 12 tax rate. As a result, (name of taxing unit) is not required to hold
- 13 an election to ratify the rate. However, you may express your
- 14 support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the
- 15 members of the (name of governing body) of (name of taxing unit) at
- 16 their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.
- "Your taxes owed under any of the above rates can be
- 18 calculated as follows:
- "Property tax amount = tax rate x taxable value of your
- 20 property / 100
- 21 "(Names of all members of the governing body, showing how
- 22 each voted on the proposed tax rate or, if one or more were absent,
- 23 indicating the absences.)"
- (c) In addition to including the information described by
- 25 Subsection (b), the notice must include the information described
- 26 by Section 26.062.
- 27 (d) The notice required under this section must be provided
- 28 <u>in the manner required under Section 26.06(c).</u>
- Sec. 26.062. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN TAX
- 30 RATE NOTICE. (a) In addition to the information described by
- 31 Section 26.06(b-1), (b-2), or (b-3) or 26.061, as applicable, a

- 1 notice required by that provision must include at the end of the
- 2 notice:
- 3 (1) a statement in the following form:
- 4 "The following table compares the taxes imposed on the
- 5 average residence homestead by (name of taxing unit) last year to
- 6 the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead
- 7 by (name of taxing unit) this year:";
- 8 <u>(2)</u> a table in the form required by this section
- 9 following the statement described by Subdivision (1); and
- 10 (3) a statement in the following form following the
- 11 table:
- 12 (A) if the tax assessor for the taxing unit
- 13 <u>maintains</u> an <u>Internet</u> website: "For assistance with tax
- 14 calculations, please contact the tax assessor for (name of taxing
- 15 unit) at (telephone number) or (e-mail address), or visit (Internet
- 16 website address) for more information."; or
- 17 (B) if the tax assessor for the taxing unit does
- 18 not maintain an Internet website: "For assistance with tax
- 19 calculations, please contact the tax assessor for (name of taxing
- 20 unit) at (telephone number) or (e-mail address)."
- 21 (b) The table must contain five rows and four columns.
- (c) The first row must appear as follows:
- 23 (1) the first column of the first row must be left
- 24 blank;
- 25 (2) the second column of the first row must state the
- 26 year corresponding to the preceding tax year;
- 27 (3) the third column of the first row must state the
- 28 year corresponding to the current tax year; and
- 29 (4) the fourth column of the first row must be entitled
- 30 "Change".
- 31 (d) The second row must appear as follows:

- 1 (1) the first column of the second row must be entitled
- 2 "Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)";
- 3 (2) the second column of the second row must state the
- 4 adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year;
- 5 (3) the third column of the second row must state the
- 6 proposed tax rate for the current tax year; and
- 7 (4) the fourth column of the second row must state the
- 8 nominal and percentage difference between the adopted tax rate for
- 9 the preceding tax year and the proposed tax rate for the current tax
- 10 year as follows: "(increase or decrease, as applicable) of
- 11 (nominal difference between tax rate stated in second column of
- 12 second row and tax rate stated in third column of second row) per
- 13 \$100, or (percentage difference between tax rate stated in second
- 14 column of second row and tax rate stated in third column of second
- 15 row)%".
- (e) The third row must appear as follows:
- 17 (1) the first column of the third row must be entitled
- 18 "Average homestead taxable value";
- 19 (2) the second column of the third row must state the
- 20 average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit
- 21 for the preceding tax year;
- 22 (3) the third column of the third row must state the
- 23 average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit
- 24 for the current tax year; and
- 25 (4) the fourth column of the third row must state the
- 26 percentage difference between the average taxable value of a
- 27 residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year
- 28 and the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing
- 29 unit for the current tax year as follows: "(increase or decrease,
- 30 as applicable) of (percentage difference between amount stated in
- 31 second column of third row and amount stated in third column of

1 third row)%".

- 2 <u>(f)</u> The fourth row must appear as follows:
- 3 (1) the first column of the fourth row must be entitled
 4 "Tax on average homestead";
- 5 (2) the second column of the fourth row must state the
- 6 amount of taxes imposed by the taxing unit in the preceding tax year
- 7 on a residence homestead with a taxable value equal to the average
- 8 taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit in the
- 9 preceding tax year;
- 10 (3) the third column of the fourth row must state the
- 11 amount of taxes that would be imposed by the taxing unit in the
- 12 current tax year on a residence homestead with a taxable value equal
- 13 to the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing
- 14 unit in the current tax year if the taxing unit adopted the proposed
- 15 tax rate; and
- 16 (4) the fourth column of the fourth row must state the
- 17 nominal and percentage difference between the amount of taxes
- 18 imposed by the taxing unit in the preceding tax year on a residence
- 19 homestead with a taxable value equal to the average taxable value of
- 20 a residence homestead in the taxing unit in the preceding tax year
- 21 and the amount of taxes that would be imposed by the taxing unit in
- 22 the current tax year on a residence homestead with a taxable value
- 23 equal to the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the
- 24 taxing unit in the current tax year if the taxing unit adopted the
- 25 proposed tax rate, as follows: "(increase or decrease, as
- 26 applicable) of (nominal difference between amount stated in second
- 27 column of fourth row and amount stated in third column of fourth
- 28 row), or (percentage difference between amount stated in second
- 29 column of fourth row and amount stated_in third column_of fourth
- 30 row)%".
- 31 (g) The fifth row must appear as follows:

- 1 (1) the first column of the fifth row must be entitled
- 2 "Total tax levy on all properties";
- 3 (2) the second column of the fifth row must state the
- 4 amount equal to last year's levy;
- 5 (3) the third column of the fifth row must state the
- 6 amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the current
- 7 total value and dividing the product by 100; and
- 8 (4) the fourth column of the fifth row must state the
- 9 nominal and percentage difference between the total amount of taxes
- 10 imposed by the taxing unit in the preceding tax year and the amount
- 11 that would be imposed by the taxing unit in the current tax year if
- 12 the taxing unit adopted the proposed tax rate, as follows:
- 13 "(increase or decrease, as applicable) of (nominal difference
- 14 between amount stated in second column of fifth row and amount
- 15 stated in third column of fifth row), or (percentage difference
- 16 between amount stated in second column of fifth row and amount
- 17 stated in third column of fifth row)%".
- 18 (h) In calculating the average taxable value of a residence
- 19 homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year and the
- 20 current tax year for purposes of Subsections (e) and (f), any
- 21 residence homestead exemption available only to disabled persons,
- 22 persons 65 years of age or older, or their surviving spouses must be
- 23 <u>disregarded</u>.
- SECTION 39. Section 26.065(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 25 as follows:
- 26 (b) The [If-the] taxing unit [owns, operates, or controls an
- 27 Internet website, the unit | shall post notice of the public hearing
- 28 prominently on the home page of the Internet website of the taxing
- 29 unit continuously for at least seven days immediately before the
- 30 public hearing on the proposed tax rate increase and at least seven
- 31 days immediately before the date of the vote proposing the increase

- 1 in the tax rate.
- 2 SECTION 40. Section 26.07, Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 3 follows:
- 4 Sec. 26.07. ELECTION TO APPROVE TAX RATE OF TAXING UNIT
- 5 OTHER THAN SCHOOL DISTRICT [REPEAL INCREASE]. (a) This section
- 6 applies to [If the governing body of] a taxing unit other than a
- 7 school district.
- 8 (b) If the governing body of a taxing unit adopts a tax rate
- 9 that exceeds the taxing unit's rollback tax rate [calculated as
- 10 provided by this chapter], the registered [qualified] voters of the
- 11 taxing unit at an election held for that purpose must determine
- 12 whether to approve the adopted tax rate. When increased
- 13 expenditure of money by a taxing unit is necessary to respond to a
- 14 disaster, including a tornado, hurricane, flood, or other calamity,
- 15 but not including a drought, that has impacted the taxing unit and
- 16 the governor has declared any part of the area in which the taxing
- 17 unit is located as a disaster area, an election is not required
- 18 under this section to approve the tax rate adopted by the governing
- 19 body for the year following the year in which the disaster occurs
- 20 [by petition may require that an election be held to determine
- 21 whether or not to reduce the tax rate adopted for the current year
- 22 to the rollback tax rate calculated as provided by this chapter].
- 23 [(b) A petition is valid only if:
- 24 [(1) it states—that it is intended to require an
- 25 election in the taxing unit on the question of reducing the tax rate
- 26 for the current year;
- 27 [(2) it is signed by a number of registered voters of
- 28 the taxing unit equal to at least:
- 29 [(A) seven percent of the number of registered
- 30 voters of the taxing unit according to the most recent list of
- 31 registered voters if the tax rate adopted for the current tax year

- 1 would impose taxes for maintenance and operations in an amount of at
- 2 least \$5 million; or
- 3 [(B) 10 percent of the number of registered
- 4 voters of the taxing unit according to the most recent official list
- 5 of registered voters if the tax rate adopted for the current tax
- 6 year would impose taxes for maintenance and operations in an amount
- 7 of less than \$5 million; and
- 8 [(3) it is submitted to the governing body on or before
- 9 the 90th day after the date on which the governing body adopted the
- 10 tax rate for the current year.]
- 11 (c) The governing body [Not later than the 20th day after
- 12 the day a petition is submitted, the governing body shall determine
- 13 whether or not the petition is valid and pass a resolution stating
- 14 its finding. If the governing body fails to act within the time
- 15 allowed, the petition is treated as if it had been found valid.
- 16 [(d) If the governing body finds that the petition is valid
- 17 $\frac{\text{(or fails to act within the time allowed), it}}{\text{shall order that } \underline{\text{the}}}$
- 18 [an] election be held in the taxing unit on the uniform election
- 19 date prescribed by Section 41.001, Election Code, that occurs in
- 20 November of the applicable tax year. The order calling the election
- 21 may not be issued later than August 15 [a date not less than 30 or
- 22 more than 90 days after the last day on which it could have acted to
- 23 approve or disapprove the petition. A state law requiring local
- 24 elections to be held on a specified date does not apply to the
- 25 election unless a specified date falls within the time permitted by
- 26 this section]. At the election, the ballots shall be prepared to
- 27 permit voting for or against the proposition: "Approving the ad
- 28 valorem tax rate of \$ per \$100 valuation in (name of taxing
- 29 unit) for the current year, a rate that is \$_____ higher per \$100
- 30 valuation than the rollback tax rate of (name of taxing unit), for
- 31 the purpose of (description of purpose of increase) ["Reducing the

- 1 tax-rate in (name of taxing unit) for the current year-from (the
- 2 rate adopted) to (the rollback tax rate calculated as provided by
- 3 this chapter)]." The ballot proposition must include the adopted
- 4 tax rate and the difference between that rate and the rollback tax
- 5 rate in the appropriate places.
- 6 (d) [(e)] If a majority of the votes cast [qualified voters
- 7 voting on the question] in the election favor the proposition, the
- 8 tax rate for the [taxing unit for the] current year is the [rollback
- 9 tax] rate that was adopted by the governing body [calculated as
- 10 provided by this chapter; otherwise, the tax rate for the current
- 11 year is the one adopted by the governing body].
- (e) If the proposition is not approved as provided by
- 13 Subsection (d), the governing body may not adopt a tax rate for the
- 14 taxing unit for the current year that exceeds the taxing unit's
- 15 rollback tax rate.
- 16 (f) If, [the tax rate is reduced by an election called under
- 17 this section after tax bills for the taxing unit have been [are]
- 18 mailed, a proposition to approve the taxing unit's adopted tax rate
- 19 is not approved by the voters of the taxing unit at an election held
- 20 under this section, on subsequent adoption of a new tax rate by the
- 21 governing body of the taxing unit, the assessor for the taxing unit
- 22 shall prepare and mail corrected tax bills. The assessor [He] shall
- 23 include with the bill a brief explanation of the reason for and
- 24 effect of the corrected bill. The date on which the taxes become
- 25 delinquent for the year is extended by a number of days equal to the
- 26 number of days between the date the first tax bills were sent and
- 27 the date the corrected tax bills were sent.
- 28 (g) If a property owner pays taxes calculated using the
- 29 originally adopted [higher] tax rate of the taxing unit and the
- 30 proposition to approve the adopted tax rate is not approved by
- 31 voters [when the rate is reduced by an election called under this

- 1 section], the taxing unit shall refund the difference between the
- 2 amount of taxes paid and the amount due under the subsequently
- 3 adopted [reduced] rate if the difference between the amount of
- 4 taxes paid and the amount due under the subsequent [reduced] rate is
- 5 \$1 or more. If the difference between the amount of taxes paid and
- 6 the amount due under the subsequent [reduced] rate is less than \$1,
- 7 the taxing unit shall refund the difference on request of the
- 8 taxpayer. An application for a refund of less than \$1 must be made
- 9 within 90 days after the date the refund becomes due or the taxpayer
- 10 forfeits the right to the refund.
- 11 SECTION 41. The heading to Section 26.16, Tax Code, is
- 12 amended to read as follows:
- 13 Sec. 26.16. POSTING OF TAX-RELATED INFORMATION [TAX-RATES]
- 14 ON COUNTY'S INTERNET WEBSITE.
- 15 SECTION 42. Section 26.16, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 16 Subsections (a) and (d) and adding Subsections (a-1), (d-1), and
- 17 (d-2) to read as follows:
- 18 (a) Each county shall maintain an Internet website. The
- 19 county assessor-collector for each county [that maintains an
- 20 Internet website] shall post on the Internet website maintained by
- 21 [of] the county the following information for the most recent five
- 22 tax years [beginning with the 2012 tax year] for each taxing unit
- 23 all or part of the territory of which is located in the county:
- 24 (1) the adopted tax rate;
- 25 (2) the maintenance and operations rate;
- 26 (3) the debt rate;
- 27 (4) the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate;
- 28 (5) the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance and
- 29 operations rate; and
- 30 (6) the rollback tax rate.
- 31 (a-1) For purposes of Subsection (a), a reference to the

- 1 no-new-revenue tax rate or the no-new-revenue maintenance and
- 2 operations rate includes the equivalent effective tax rate or
- 3 effective maintenance and operations rate for a preceding year.
- 4 This subsection expires January 1, 2026.
- 5 (d) The county assessor-collector shall post immediately
- 6 below the table prescribed by Subsection (c) the following
- 7 statement:
- 8 "The county is providing this table of property tax rate
- 9 information as a service to the residents of the county. Each
- 10 individual taxing unit is responsible for calculating the property
- 11 tax rates listed in this table pertaining to that taxing unit and
- 12 providing that information to the county.
- "The adopted tax rate is the tax rate adopted by the governing
- 14 body of a taxing unit.
- 15 "The maintenance and operations rate is the component of the
- 16 adopted tax rate of a taxing unit that will impose the amount of
- 17 taxes needed to fund maintenance and operation expenditures of the
- 18 taxing unit for the following year.
- "The debt rate is the component of the adopted tax rate of a
- 20 taxing unit that will impose the amount of taxes needed to fund the
- 21 taxing unit's debt service for the following year.
- "The <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] tax rate is the tax rate that
- 23 would generate the same amount of revenue in the current tax year as
- 24 was generated by a taxing unit's adopted tax rate in the preceding
- 25 tax year from property that is taxable in both the current tax year
- 26 and the preceding tax year.
- The <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] maintenance and operations
- 28 rate is the tax rate that would generate the same amount of revenue
- 29 for maintenance and operations in the current tax year as was
- 30 generated by a taxing unit's maintenance and operations rate in the
- 31 preceding tax year from property that is taxable in both the current

- 1 tax year and the preceding tax year.
- 2 "The rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate a taxing unit
- 3 may adopt before requiring voter approval at an election. An $[\frac{1}{2}]$
- 4 the case of a taxing unit other than a school district, the voters
- 5 by petition may require that a rollback election be held if the unit
- 6 adopts a tax rate in excess of the unit's rollback tax rate. In the
- 7 case of a school district, an election will automatically be held
- 8 if <u>a taxing unit</u> [the district] wishes to adopt a tax rate in excess
- 9 of the taxing unit's [district's] rollback tax rate."
- 10 (d-1) In addition to posting the information described by
- 11 Subsection (a), the county assessor-collector shall post on the
- 12 Internet website of the county for each taxing unit all or part of
- 13 the territory of which is located in the county:
- 14 (1) the tax rate calculation forms used by the
- 15 designated officer or employee of each taxing unit to calculate the
- 16 no-new-revenue and rollback tax rates of the taxing unit for the
- 17 most recent five tax years beginning with the 2020 tax year, as
- 18 certified by the designated officer or employee under Section
- 19 26.04(d-2); and
- 20 (2) the name and official contact information for each
- 21 member of the governing body of the taxing unit.
- 22 (d-2) Not later than August 1, the county
- 23 assessor-collector shall post on the website the tax rate
- 24 calculation forms described by Subsection (d-1)(1) for the current
- 25 tax year.
- 26 SECTION 43. Chapter 26, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 27 Sections 26.17 and 26.18 to read as follows:
- Sec. 26.17. DATABASE OF PROPERTY-TAX-RELATED INFORMATION.
- 29 (a) The chief appraiser of each appraisal district shall create and
- 30 maintain a property tax database that:
- 31 (1) is identified by the name of the county in which

- 1 the appraisal district is established instead of the name of the
- 2 appraisal district;
- 3 (2) contains information that is provided by
- 4 designated officers or employees of the taxing units that are
- 5 located in the appraisal district in the manner required by the
- 6 comptroller;
- 7 (3) is continuously updated as preliminary and revised
- 8 data become available to and are provided by the designated
- 9 officers or employees of taxing units;
- 10 (4) is accessible to the public; and
- 11 (5) is searchable by property address and owner,
- 12 except to the extent that access to the information in the database
- is restricted by Section 25.025 or 25.026.
- 14 (b) The database must include, with respect to each property
- 15 listed on the appraisal roll for the appraisal district:
- 16 (1) the property's identification number;
- 17 (2) the property's market value;
- 18 (3) the property's taxable value;
- 19 (4) the name of each taxing unit in which the property
- 20 is located;
- 21 (5) for each taxing unit other than a school district
- 22 in which the property is located:
- (A) the no-new-revenue tax rate; and
- (B) the rollback tax rate;
- 25 (6) for each school district in which the property is
- 26 <u>located:</u>
- 27 (A) the tax rate that would maintain the same
- 28 amount of state and local revenue per weighted student that the
- 29 district received in the school year beginning in the preceding tax
- 30 year; and
- 31 (B) the rollback tax rate;

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(7) the tax rate proposed by the governing body of each
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2
   taxing unit in which the property is located;
               (8) for each taxing unit other than a school district
 3
   in which the property is located, the taxes that would be imposed on
 4
 5
   the property if the taxing unit adopted a tax rate equal to:
                    (A) the no-new-revenue tax rate; and
 6
 7
                    (B) the proposed tax rate;
                    for each school district in which the property is
8
9
    located, the taxes that would be imposed on the property if the
10
    district adopted a tax rate equal to:
11
                    (A) the tax rate that would maintain the same
    amount of state and local revenue per weighted student that the
12
13
    district received in the school year beginning in the preceding tax
14
   year; and
15
                    (B) the proposed tax rate;
16
               (10) for each taxing unit other than a school district
    in which the property is located, the difference between the amount
17
18
    calculated under Subdivision (8)(A) and the amount calculated under
19
   Subdivision (8)(B);
20
               (11) for each school district in which the property is
21
   located, the difference between the amount calculated under
22
   Subdivision (9)(A) and the amount calculated under Subdivision
23
   (9)(B);
24
               (12) the date, time, and location of the public
    hearing, if applicable, on the proposed tax rate to be held by the
25
26
    governing body of each taxing unit in which the property is located;
27
               (13) the date, time, and location of the public
28
   meeting, if applicable, at which the tax rate will be adopted to be
29
   held by the governing body of each taxing unit in which the property
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is located; and

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(14) for each taxing unit in which the property is

- 1 located, an e-mail address at which the taxing unit is capable of
- 2 receiving written comments regarding the proposed tax rate of the
- 3 taxing unit.
- 4 (c) The database must provide a link to the Internet website
- 5 used by each taxing unit in which the property is located to post
- 6 the information described by Section 26.18.
- 7 (d) The database must allow the property owner to
- 8 electronically complete and submit to a taxing unit in which the
- 9 owner's property is located a form on which the owner may provide
- 10 the owner's opinion as to whether the tax rate proposed by the
- 11 governing body of the taxing unit should be adopted. The form must
- 12 require the owner to provide the owner's name and contact
- 13 information and the physical address of the owner's property
- 14 located in the taxing unit. The database must allow a property
- owner to complete and submit the form at any time during the period
- 16 beginning on the date the governing body of the taxing unit proposes
- 17 the tax rate for that tax year and ending on the date the governing
- 18 body adopts a tax rate for that tax year.
- (e) The officer or employee designated by the governing body
- 20 of each taxing unit in which the property is located to calculate
- 21 the no-new-revenue tax rate and the rollback tax rate for the taxing
- 22 unit must electronically incorporate into the database:
- 23 (1) the information described by Subsections (b)(5),
- 24 (6), (7), (12), and (13), as applicable, as the information becomes
- 25 <u>available; and</u>
- 26 (2) the tax rate calculation forms prepared under
- 27 Section 26.04(d-1) at the same time the designated officer or
- 28 employee submits the tax rates to the governing body of the taxing
- 29 unit under Section 26.04(e).
- 30 (f) The chief appraiser shall make the information
- 31 described by Subsection (e)(1) and the tax rate calculation forms

- 1 described by Subsection (e)(2) available to the public not later
- 2 than the third business day after the date the information and forms
- 3 are incorporated into the database.
- 4 Sec. 26.18. POSTING OF TAX RATE AND BUDGET INFORMATION BY
- 5 TAXING UNIT ON WEBSITE. Each taxing unit shall maintain an Internet
- 6 website or have access to a generally accessible Internet website
- 7 that may be used for the purposes of this section. Each taxing unit
- 8 shall post or cause to be posted on the Internet website the
- 9 following information in a format prescribed by the comptroller:
- 10 (1) the name of each member of the governing body of
- 11 the taxing unit;
- 12 (2) the mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone
- 13 number of the taxing unit;
- 14 (3) the official contact information for each member
- 15 of the governing body of the taxing unit, if that information is
- 16 different from the information described by Subdivision (2);
- 17 (4) the taxing unit's budget for the preceding two
- 18 years;
- 19 (5) the taxing unit's proposed or adopted budget for
- 20 the current year;
- 21 (6) the change in the amount of the taxing unit's
- 22 budget from the preceding year to the current year, by dollar amount
- 23 and percentage;
- 24 (7) in the case of a taxing unit other than a school
- 25 district, the amount of property tax revenue budgeted for
- 26 maintenance and operations for:
- 27 (A) the preceding two years; and
- (B) the current year;
- 29 (8) in the case of a taxing unit other than a school
- 30 district, the amount of property tax revenue budgeted for debt
- 31 service for:

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(A) the preceding two years; and
2
                   (B) the current year;
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- (9) the tax rate for maintenance and operations 3
- adopted by the taxing unit for the preceding two years; 4
- (10) in the case of a taxing unit other than a school 5
- district, the tax rate for debt service adopted by the taxing unit 6
- for the preceding two years; 7
- (11) in the case of a school district, the interest and 8
- sinking fund tax rate adopted by the district for the preceding two 9
- 10 years;

1

- 11 (12) the tax rate for maintenance and operations
- proposed by the taxing unit for the current year; 12
- (13) in the case of a taxing unit other than a school 13
- district, the tax rate for debt service proposed by the taxing unit 14
- 15 for the current year;
- (14) in the case of a school district, the interest and 16
- sinking fund tax rate proposed by the district for the current year; 17
- 18 and
- (15) the most recent financial audit of the taxing 19
- unit. 20
- SECTION 44. Section 31.12(b), Tax Code, is amended to read 21
- as follows: 22
- (b) For purposes of this section, liability for a refund 23
- arises: 24
- if the refund is required by Section 11.431(b), on 25
- the date the chief appraiser notifies the collector for the taxing 26
- 27 unit of the approval of the late homestead exemption;
- if the refund is required by Section 26.07(g), on 28
- the date the subsequent tax rate is adopted [results of the election 29
- to-reduce the tax rate are certified]; 30
- (3) if the refund is required by Section 26.15(f): 31

- 1 (A) for a correction to the tax roll made under
- 2 Section 26.15(b), on the date the change in the tax roll is
- 3 certified to the assessor for the taxing unit under Section 25.25;
- 4 or
- 5 (B) for a correction to the tax roll made under
- 6 Section 26.15(c), on the date the change in the tax roll is ordered
- 7 by the governing body of the taxing unit;
- 8 (4) if the refund is required by Section 31.11, on the
- 9 date the auditor for the taxing unit determines that the payment was
- 10 erroneous or excessive or, if the amount of the refund exceeds the
- 11 applicable amount specified by Section 31.11(a), on the date the
- 12 governing body of the taxing unit approves the refund;
- 13 (5) if the refund is required by Section 31.111, on the
- 14 date the collector for the taxing unit determines that the payment
- 15 was erroneous; or
- 16 (6) if the refund is required by Section 31.112, on the
- 17 date required by Section 31.112(d) or (e), as applicable.
- 18 SECTION 45. Section 41.03(a), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 19 as follows:
- 20 (a) A taxing unit is entitled to challenge before the
- 21 appraisal review board:
- 22 (1) [the level of appraisals of any category of
- 23 property in the district or in any territory in the district, but
- 24 not the appraised value of a single taxpayer's property;
- 25 $\left[\frac{(2)}{2}\right]$ an exclusion of property from the appraisal
- 26 records;
- 27 (2) [(3)] a grant in whole or in part of a partial
- 28 exemption;
- (3) $[\frac{(4)}{1}]$ a determination that land qualifies for
- 30 appraisal as provided by Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23; or
- (4) [(5)] failure to identify the taxing unit as one

- 1 in which a particular property is taxable.
- 2 SECTION 46. Section 41.44(d), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 3 as follows:
- 4 (d) A notice of protest is sufficient if it identifies the
- 5 protesting property owner, including a person claiming an ownership
- 6 interest in the property even if that person is not listed on the
- 7 appraisal records as an owner of the property, identifies the
- 8 property that is the subject of the protest, and indicates apparent
- 9 dissatisfaction with some determination of the appraisal office.
- 10 The notice need not be on an official form, but the comptroller
- 11 shall prescribe a form that provides for more detail about the
- 12 nature of the protest. The form must permit a property owner to
- 13 include each property in the appraisal district that is the subject
- 14 of a protest. The form must permit a property owner to request that
- 15 the protest be heard by a special panel established under Section
- 16 6.425 if the protest will be determined by an appraisal review board
- 17 to which that section applies and the property is included in a
- 18 classification described by Section 6.425(b). The comptroller,
- 19 each appraisal office, and each appraisal review board shall make
- 20 the forms readily available and deliver one to a property owner on
- 21 request.
- 22 SECTION 47. Section 41.45, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 23 Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (d-1), (d-2), and (d-3) to
- 24 read as follows:
- 25 (d) This subsection does not apply to a special panel
- 26 established under Section 6.425. An appraisal review board
- 27 consisting of more than three members may sit in panels of not fewer
- 28 than three members to conduct protest hearings. [However, the
- 29 determination of a protest heard by a panel must be made by the
- 30 board.] If the recommendation of a panel is not accepted by the
- 31 board, the board may refer the matter for rehearing to a panel

- 1 composed of members who did not hear the original protest [hearing]
- 2 or, if there are not at least three members who did not hear the
- 3 original protest, the board may determine the protest. [Before
- 4 determining a protest or conducting a rehearing before a new panel
- 5 or the board, the board shall deliver notice of the hearing or
- 6 meeting to determine the protest in accordance with the provisions
- 7 of this subchapter.
- 8 (d-1) An appraisal review board to which Section 6.425
- 9 applies shall sit in special panels established under that section
- 10 to conduct protest hearings. A special panel may conduct a protest
- 11 hearing relating to property only if the property is described by
- 12 Section 6.425(b) and the property owner has requested that a
- 13 special panel conduct the hearing or if the protest is assigned to
- 14 the special panel under Section 6.425(f). If the recommendation of
- 15 <u>a special panel is not accepted by the board, the board may refer</u>
- 16 the matter for rehearing to another special panel composed of
- 17 members who did not hear the original protest or, if there are not
- 18 at least three other special panel members who did not hear the
- 19 <u>original protest</u>, the board may determine the protest.
- 20 (d-2) The determination of a protest heard by a panel under
- 21 Subsection (d) or (d-1) must be made by the board.
- 22 (d-3) The board must deliver notice of a hearing or meeting
- 23 to determine a protest heard by a panel, or to rehear a protest,
- 24 under Subsection (d) or (d-1) in accordance with the provisions of
- 25 this subchapter.
- SECTION 48. Section 41.46(a), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 27 as follows:
- 28 (a) The appraisal review board before which a protest
- 29 hearing is scheduled shall deliver written notice to the property
- 30 owner initiating a protest not later than the 15th day before the
- 31 date of the hearing. The notice must include:

- 1 (1) [of] the date, time, and place of [fixed for] the
- 2 hearing;
- 3 (2) a description of the subject matter of the hearing
- 4 that is sufficient to identify the specific action being protested,
- 5 such as:
- 6 (A) the determination of the appraised value of
- 7 the property owner's property;
- 8 (B) the denial to the property owner in whole or
- 9 in part of a partial exemption; or
- 10 <u>(C)</u> the determination that the property owner's
- 11 land does not qualify for appraisal as provided by Subchapter C, D,
- 12 E, or H, Chapter 23; and
- (3) a statement that [on the protest and of] the
- 14 property owner is entitled [owner's entitlement] to a postponement
- 15 of the hearing as provided by Section 41.45 unless the property
- 16 owner waives in writing notice of the hearing. [The board shall
- 17 deliver the notice not later than the 15th day before the date of
- 18 the hearing.
- 19 SECTION 49. Section 41.461, Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 20 follows:
- Sec. 41.461. NOTICE OF CERTAIN MATTERS BEFORE HEARING:
- 22 DELIVERY OF REQUESTED INFORMATION. (a) At least 14 days before a
- 23 hearing on a protest, the chief appraiser shall:
- 24 (1) deliver a copy of the pamphlet prepared by the
- 25 comptroller under Section 5.06 [5.06(a)] to the property owner
- 26 initiating the protest [if the owner is representing himself], or
- 27 to an agent representing the owner if requested by the agent;
- 28 (2) inform the property owner that the owner or the
- 29 agent of the owner is entitled on request to [may inspect and may
- 30 obtain] a copy of the data, schedules, formulas, and all other
- 31 information the chief appraiser will [plans to] introduce at the

- 1 hearing to establish any matter at issue; and
- 2 (3) deliver a copy of the hearing procedures
- 3 established by the appraisal review board under Section 41.66 to
- 4 the property owner.
- 5 (b) The chief appraiser may not charge a property owner or
- 6 the designated agent of the owner for copies provided to the [an]
- 7 owner or <u>designated</u> agent under this section, regardless of the
- 8 manner in which the copies are prepared or delivered [may not exceed
- 9 the charge for copies of public information as provided under
- 10 Subchapter F, Chapter 552, Government Code, except:
- 11 [(1) the total charge for copies provided in
- 12 connection with a protest of the appraisal of residential property
- 13 may not exceed \$15 for each residence; and
- 14 [(2) the total charge for copies provided in
- 15 connection with a protest of the appraisal of a single unit of
- 16 property subject to appraisal, other than residential property, may
- 17 not exceed \$25].
- 18 (c) A chief appraiser shall deliver information requested
- 19 by a property owner or the agent of the owner under Subsection
- 20 (a)(2):
- 21 (1) by regular first-class mail, deposited in the
- 22 United States mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the property
- 23 owner or agent at the address provided in the request for the
- 24 information;
- 25 (2) in an electronic format as provided by an
- 26 agreement under Section 1.085; or
- 27 (3) subject to Subsection (d), by referring the
- 28 property owner or the agent of the owner to a secure Internet
- 29 website with user registration and authentication or to the exact
- 30 Internet location or uniform resource locator (URL) address on an
- 31 Internet website maintained by the appraisal district on which the

- 1 requested information is identifiable and readily available.
- 2 (d) If a chief appraiser provides a property owner or the
- 3 designated agent of the owner information under Subsection (c)(3),
- 4 the notice must contain a statement in a conspicuous font that
- 5 clearly indicates that the property owner or the agent of the owner
- 6 may on request receive the information by regular first-class mail
- 7 or <u>in person at the appraisal office</u>. On request by a property
- 8 owner or the agent of the owner, the chief appraiser must provide
- 9 the information by regular first-class mail or in person at the
- 10 appraisal office.
- 11 SECTION 50. Section 41.47, Tax Code, is amended by adding
- 12 Subsections (c-2) and (f) and amending Subsections (d) and (e) to
- 13 read as follows:
- 14 (c-2) The board may not determine the appraised value of the
- 15 property that is the subject of a protest to be an amount greater
- 16 than the appraised value of the property as shown in the appraisal
- 17 records submitted to the board by the chief appraiser under Section
- 18 25.22 or 25.23. This subsection does not apply if the action being
- 19 protested is the cancellation, modification, or denial of an
- 20 exemption or the determination that the property does not qualify
- 21 for appraisal as provided by Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23.
- 22 (d) The board shall deliver by certified mail:
- 23 (1) a notice of issuance of the order and a copy of the
- 24 order to the property owner and the chief appraiser; and
- 25 (2) a copy of the appraisal review board survey form
- 26 prepared under Section 5.104 and instructions for completing and
- 27 submitting the form to the property owner.
- 28 (e) The notice of the issuance of the order must contain a
- 29 prominently printed statement in upper-case bold lettering
- 30 informing the property owner in clear and concise language of the
- 31 property owner's right to appeal the order of the board [board's

- 1 decision to district court. The statement must describe the
- deadline prescribed by Section 42.06(a) [of this code] for filing a
- 3 written notice of appeal $[\tau]$ and the deadline prescribed by Section
- 4 42.21(a) [of this code] for filing the petition for review with the
- 5 district court.
- 6 (f) The appraisal review board shall take the actions
- 7 required by Subsections (a) and (d) not later than:
- 8 (1) the 30th day after the date the hearing on the
- 9 protest is concluded, if the board is established for an appraisal
- 10 district located in a county with a population of less than four
- 11 million; or
- 12 (2) the 45th day after the date the hearing on the
- 13 protest is concluded, if the board is established for an appraisal
- 14 district located in a county with a population of four million or
- 15 more.
- SECTION 51. Section 41.66, Tax Code, is amended by amending
- 17 Subsections (h), (i), (j), and (k) and adding Subsections (j-1),
- 18 (k-1), and (p) to read as follows:
- 19 (h) The appraisal review board shall postpone a hearing on a
- 20 protest if the property owner or the designated agent of the owner
- 21 requests additional time to prepare for the hearing and establishes
- 22 to the board that the chief appraiser failed to comply with Section
- 23 41.461. The board is not required to postpone a hearing more than
- 24 one time under this subsection.
- 25 (i) A hearing on a protest filed by a property owner or the
- 26 designated agent of the owner [who is not represented by an agent
- 27 designated under-Section 1.111] shall be set for a time and date
- 28 certain. If the hearing is not commenced within two hours of the
- 29 time set for the hearing, the appraisal review board shall postpone
- 30 the hearing on the request of the property owner or the designated
- 31 agent of the owner.

(j) On the request of a property owner or $\underline{\text{the}}$ [$\underline{\textbf{a}}$] designated 1 agent of the owner, an appraisal review board shall schedule 2 hearings on protests concerning up to 20 designated properties $\underline{\text{to}}$ 3 be held consecutively on the same day. The designated properties 4 must be identified in the same notice of protest, and the notice 5 must contain in boldfaced type the statement "request for same-day protest hearings." A property owner or the designated agent of the 7 owner may [not] file more than one request under this subsection 8 9 with the appraisal review board in the same tax year. The appraisal review board may schedule hearings on protests concerning more than 10 20 properties filed by the same property owner or the designated 11 12 agent of the owner and may use different panels to conduct the hearings based on the board's customary scheduling. The appraisal 13 14 review board may follow the practices customarily used by the board in the scheduling of hearings under this subsection. 15

16 (j-1) An appraisal review board may schedule the hearings on 17 all protests filed by a property owner or the designated agent of the owner to be held consecutively. The notice of the hearings must 18 19 state the date and time that the first hearing will begin, state the date the last hearing will end, and list the order in which the 20 hearings will be held. The order of the hearings listed in the 21 notice may not be changed without the agreement of the property 22 23 owner or the designated agent of the owner, the chief appraiser, and the appraisal review board. The board may not reschedule a hearing 24 25 for which notice is given under this subsection to a date earlier 26 than the seventh day after the date the last hearing was scheduled 27 to end unless agreed to by the property owner or the designated 28 agent of the owner, the chief appraiser, and the appraisal review 29 board. Unless agreed to by the parties, the board must provide 30 written notice of the date and time of the rescheduled hearing to 31 the property owner or the designated agent of the owner not later

1 than the seventh day before the date of the hearing.

- 2 This subsection does not apply to a special panel (k) 3 established under Section 6.425. If an appraisal review board sits in panels to conduct protest hearings, protests shall be randomly 4 5 assigned to panels, except that the board may consider the type of 6 property subject to the protest or the ground of the protest for the 7 purpose of using the expertise of a particular panel in hearing 8 protests regarding particular types of property or based on particular grounds. If a protest is scheduled to be heard by a 9 particular panel, the protest may not be reassigned to another 10 panel without the consent of the property owner or $\underline{\text{the}}$ designated 11 12 agent of the owner. If the appraisal review board has cause to 13 reassign a protest to another panel, a property owner or the designated agent of the owner may agree to reassignment of the 14 15 protest or may request that the hearing on the protest be postponed. The board shall postpone the hearing on that request. A change of 16 17 members of a panel because of a conflict of interest, illness, or 18 inability to continue participating in hearings for the remainder of the day does not constitute reassignment of a protest to another 19 20 panel.
- 21 (k-1) On the request of a property owner or the designated 22 agent of the owner, an appraisal review board to which Section 6.425 applies shall assign a protest relating to property described by 23 Section 6.425(b) to a special panel. In addition, the chairman of 24 25 the appraisal review board may assign a protest relating to 26 property not described by Section 6.425(b) to a special panel as 27 authorized by Section 6.425(f), but only if the assignment is requested or consented to by the property owner or the designated 28 agent of the owner. Protests assigned to special panels shall be 29 30 randomly assigned to those panels. If a protest is scheduled to be 31 heard by a particular special panel, the protest may not be

- 1 reassigned to another special panel without the consent of the
- 2 property owner or the designated agent of the owner. If the board
- 3 has cause to reassign a protest to another special panel, a property
- 4 owner or the designated agent of the owner may agree to reassignment
- 5 of the protest or may request that the hearing on the protest be
- 6 postponed. The board shall postpone the hearing on that request. A
- 7 change of members of a special panel because of a conflict of
- 8 interest, illness, or inability to continue participating in
- 9 hearings for the remainder of the day does not constitute
- 10 reassignment of a protest to another special panel.
- (p) At the end of a hearing on a protest, the appraisal
- 12 review board shall provide the property owner or the designated
- 13 agent of the owner one or more documents indicating that the members
- 14 of the board hearing the protest signed the affidavit required by
- 15 Subsection (g).
- 16 SECTION 52. Section 41.67(d), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 17 as follows:
- 18 (d) Information that was previously requested under Section
- 19 41.461 by the protesting party that was not delivered [made
- 20 available] to the protesting party at least 14 days before the
- 21 scheduled or postponed hearing may not be used or offered in any
- 22 form as evidence in the hearing, including as a document or through
- 23 argument or testimony. This subsection does not apply to
- 24 information offered to rebut evidence or argument presented at the
- 25 hearing by the protesting party or that party's designated agent.
- SECTION 53. Section 41.71, Tax Code, is amended to read as
- 27 follows:
- 28 Sec. 41.71. EVENING AND WEEKEND HEARINGS. (a) An
- 29 appraisal review board by rule shall provide for hearings on
- 30 protests [in the evening or] on a Saturday or after 5 p.m. on a
- 31 weekday [Sunday].

2	(1) the first hearing on a protest held on a weekday
3	evening to begin after 7 p.m.; or
4	(2) a hearing on a protest on a Sunday.
5	SECTION 54. Section 41A.06(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
6	as follows:
7	(b) To initially qualify to serve as an arbitrator under
8	this chapter, a person must:
9	(1) meet the following requirements, as applicable:
10	(A) be licensed as an attorney in this state; or
11	(B) have:
12	(i) completed at least 30 hours of training
13	in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution procedures from a
14	university, college, or legal or real estate trade association; and
15	(ii) been licensed or certified
16	continuously during the five years preceding the date the person
17	agrees to serve as an arbitrator as:
18	(a) a real estate broker or sales
19	agent under Chapter 1101, Occupations Code;
20	(b) a real estate appraiser under
21	Chapter 1103, Occupations Code; or
22	(c) a certified public accountant
23	under Chapter 901, Occupations Code; [and]
24	(2) complete the courses for training and education of
25	appraisal review board members established under Sections 5.041(a)
26	and (e-1) and be issued a certificate for each course indicating
27	<pre>course completion;</pre>
28	(3) complete the training program on property tax law
29	for the training and education of arbitrators established under
30	Section 5.043; and
31	(4) agree to conduct an arbitration for a fee that is

(b) The board may not schedule:

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- 1 not more than:
- 2 (A) \$400, if the property qualifies as the
- 3 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 4 or market value, as applicable, of the property is \$500,000 or less,
- 5 as determined by the order;
- 6 (B) \$450, if the property qualifies as the
- 7 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 8 or market value, as applicable, of the property is more than
- 9 \$500,000, as determined by the order;
- 10 (C) \$450, if the property does not qualify as the
- 11 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 12 or market value, as applicable, of the property is \$1 million or
- 13 less, as determined by the order;
- 14 (D) \$750, if the property does not qualify as the
- 15 owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the appraised
- 16 or market value, as applicable, of the property is more than \$1
- 17 million but not more than \$2 million, as determined by the order;
- 18 (E) \$1,000, if the property does not qualify as
- 19 the owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the
- 20 appraised or market value, as applicable, of the property is more
- 21 than \$2 million but not more than \$3 million, as determined by the
- 22 order; or
- 23 (F) \$1,500, if the property does not qualify as
- 24 the owner's residence homestead under Section 11.13 and the
- 25 appraised or market value, as applicable, of the property is more
- 26 than \$3 million but not more than \$5 million, as determined by the
- 27 order.
- SECTION 55. Sections 41A.061(b) and (c), Tax Code, are
- 29 amended to read as follows:
- 30 (b) To renew the person's agreement to serve as an
- 31 arbitrator, the person must:

- 1 (1) file a renewal application with the comptroller at
- 2 the time and in the manner prescribed by the comptroller;
- 3 (2) continue to meet the requirements provided by
- 4 Sections 41A.06(b)(1) and (4) [Section 41A.06(b)]; and
- 5 (3) during the preceding two years have completed at
- 6 least eight hours of continuing education in arbitration and
- 7 alternative dispute resolution procedures offered by a university,
- 8 college, real estate trade association, or legal association.
- 9 (c) The comptroller shall remove a person from the registry
- 10 if:
- 11 (1) the person fails or declines to renew the person's
- 12 agreement to serve as an arbitrator in the manner required by this
- 13 section; [or]
- 14 (2) the comptroller determines by clear and convincing
- 15 evidence that there is good cause to remove the person from the
- 16 registry, including evidence of repeated bias or misconduct by the
- 17 person while acting as an arbitrator; or
- 18 (3) the person fails to complete a revised training
- 19 program on property tax law for the training and education of
- 20 arbitrators established under Section 5.043 not later than the
- 21 120th day after the date the program is available to be taken if the
- 22 comptroller:
- 23 (A) revises the program after the person is
- 24 included in the registry; and
- 25 (B) certifies that the program is substantially
- 26 revised.
- 27 SECTION 56. Section 41A.07, Tax Code, is amended by
- 28 amending Subsections (e), (f), and (g) and adding Subsection (h) to
- 29 read as follows:
- 30 (e) To be eligible for appointment as an arbitrator under
- 31 this section [Subsection (a)], the arbitrator must reside[+

- 1 [(1) in the county in which the property that is the
- 2 subject of the appeal is located; or
- 3 [\(\frac{(2)}{2}\)] in this state [\(\frac{\text{if no available arbitrator on the}}{4 \text{registry resides in that county}}\)].
- 5 (f) A person is not eligible for appointment as an
- 6 arbitrator under this section [Subsection (a)] if at any time
- 7 during the preceding five years, the person has:
- 8 (1) represented a person for compensation in a
- 9 proceeding under this title in the appraisal district in which the
- 10 property that is the subject of the appeal is located;
- 11 (2) served as an officer or employee of that appraisal
- 12 district; or
- 13 (3) served as a member of the appraisal review board
- 14 for that appraisal district.
- 15 (g) The comptroller may not appoint an arbitrator under this
- 16 section [Subsection (a)] if the comptroller determines that there
- 17 is good cause not to appoint the arbitrator, including information
- 18 or evidence indicating repeated bias or misconduct by the person
- 19 while acting as an arbitrator.
- 20 (h) A property owner may request that, in appointing an
- 21 <u>initial arbitrator under this section, the comptroller appoint an</u>
- 22 arbitrator who resides in the county in which the property that is
- 23 the subject of the appeal is located or an arbitrator who resides
- 24 outside that county. In appointing an initial arbitrator under
- 25 Subsection (a), the comptroller shall comply with the request of
- 26 the property owner unless the property owner requests that the
- 27 comptroller appoint an arbitrator who resides in the county in
- 28 which the property that is the subject of the appeal is located and
- 29 there is not an available arbitrator who resides in that county. In
- 30 appointing a substitute arbitrator under Subsection (d), the
- 31 comptroller shall consider but is not required to comply with the

- 1 request of the property owner. This subsection does not authorize a
- 2 property owner to request the appointment of a specific individual
- 3 as an arbitrator.
- 4 SECTION 57. Section 41A.09(b), Tax Code, is amended to read
- 5 as follows:
- 6 (b) An award under this section:
- 7 (1) must include a determination of the appraised or
- 8 market value, as applicable, of the property that is the subject of
- 9 the appeal;
- 10 (2) may include any remedy or relief a court may order
- 11 under Chapter 42 in an appeal relating to the appraised or market
- 12 value of property;
- 13 (3) shall specify the arbitrator's fee, which may not
- 14 exceed the amount provided by Section 41A.06(b)(4)[41A.06(b)(2)];
- 15 (4) is final and may not be appealed except as
- 16 permitted under Section 171.088, Civil Practice and Remedies Code,
- 17 for an award subject to that section; and
- 18 (5) may be enforced in the manner provided by
- 19 Subchapter D, Chapter 171, Civil Practice and Remedies Code.
- 20 SECTION 58. Section 45.105(e), Education Code, is amended
- 21 to read as follows:
- (e) The governing body of an independent school district
- 23 that governs a junior college district under Subchapter B, Chapter
- 24 130, in a county with a population of more than two million may
- 25 dedicate a specific percentage of the local tax levy to the use of
- 26 the junior college district for facilities and equipment or for the
- 27 maintenance and operating expenses of the junior college district.
- 28 To be effective, the dedication must be made by the governing body
- 29 on or before the date on which the governing body adopts its tax
- 30 rate for a year. The amount of local tax funds derived from the
- 31 percentage of the local tax levy dedicated to a junior college

- 1 district from a tax levy may not exceed the amount that would be
- 2 levied by five percent of the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate
- 3 for the tax year calculated as provided by Section 26.04, Tax Code,
- 4 on all property taxable by the school district. All real property
- 5 purchased with these funds is the property of the school district,
- 6 but is subject to the exclusive control of the governing body of the
- 7 junior college district for as long as the junior college district
- 8 uses the property for educational purposes.
- 9 SECTION 59. Section 403.302, Government Code, is amended by
- 10 adding Subsections (k) and (k-1) and amending Subsection (o) to
- 11 read as follows:
- 12 (k) If the comptroller determines in the study that the
- 13 school district's local value as determined by the appraisal
- 14 district that appraises property for the school district is not
- 15 valid, the comptroller shall provide notice of the comptroller's
- 16 determination to the board of directors of the appraisal district.
- 17 The board of directors of the appraisal district shall hold a public
- 18 meeting to discuss the receipt of notice under this subsection.
- 19 (k-1) If the comptroller determines in the study that the
- 20 school district's local value as determined by the appraisal
- 21 district that appraises property for the school district is not
- 22 valid for three consecutive years, the comptroller shall conduct an
- 23 additional review of the appraisal district under Section 5.102,
- 24 Tax Code, and provide recommendations to the appraisal district.
- 25 The comptroller may contract with a third party to assist the
- 26 comptroller in conducting the additional review and providing the
- 27 recommendations required under this subsection. If the appraisal
- 28 district fails to comply with the recommendations provided under
- 29 this subsection and the comptroller finds that the board of
- 30 directors of the appraisal district failed to take remedial action
- 31 reasonably designed to ensure substantial compliance with each

- 1 recommendation before the first anniversary of the date the
- 2 recommendations were made, the comptroller shall notify the Texas
- 3 Department of Licensing and Regulation, or a successor to the
- 4 department, which shall take action necessary to ensure that the
- 5 recommendations are implemented as soon as practicable. Before
- 6 February 1 of the year following the year in which the Texas
- 7 Department of Licensing and Regulation, or a successor to the
- 8 department, takes action under this subsection, the department,
- 9 with the assistance of the comptroller, shall determine whether the
- 10 recommendations have been substantially implemented and notify the
- 11 board of directors of the appraisal district of the determination.
- 12 If the department determines that the recommendations have not been
- 13 substantially implemented, the board of directors of the appraisal
- 14 district must, within three months of the determination, consider
- 15 whether the failure to implement the recommendations was under the
- 16 current chief appraiser's control and whether the chief appraiser
- 17 is able to adequately perform the chief appraiser's duties.
- 18 (o) The comptroller shall adopt rules governing the conduct
- 19 of the study after consultation with the comptroller's property tax
- 20 administration advisory board [Comptroller's Property Value Study
- 21 Advisory Committee].
- 22 SECTION 60. Section 102.007(d), Local Government Code, is
- 23 amended to read as follows:
- 24 (d) An adopted budget must contain a cover page that
- 25 includes:
- 26 (1) one of the following statements in 18-point or
- 27 larger type that accurately describes the adopted budget:
- 28 (A) "This budget will raise more revenue from
- 29 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 30 dollar amount of increase), which is a (insert percentage increase)
- 31 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue

- 1 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 2 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 3 value of new property added to the roll).";
- 4 (B) "This budget will raise less revenue from
- 5 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 6 dollar amount of decrease), which is a (insert percentage decrease)
- 7 percent decrease from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 8 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 9 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 10 value of new property added to the roll)."; or
- 11 (C) "This budget will raise the same amount of
- 12 revenue from property taxes as last year's budget. The property tax
- 13 revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this
- 14 year is (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax
- 15 rate by the value of new property added to the roll).";
- 16 (2) the record vote of each member of the governing
- 17 body by name voting on the adoption of the budget;
- 18 (3) the municipal property tax rates for the preceding
- 19 fiscal year, and each municipal property tax rate that has been
- 20 adopted or calculated for the current fiscal year, including:
- 21 (A) the property tax rate;
- 22 (B) the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate;
- (C) the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance
- 24 and operations tax rate;
- 25 (D) the rollback tax rate; and
- 26 (E) the debt rate; and
- 27 (4) the total amount of municipal debt obligations.
- 28 SECTION 61. Section 111.008(d), Local Government Code, is
- 29 amended to read as follows:
- 30 (d) An adopted budget must contain a cover page that
- 31 includes:

- 1 (1) one of the following statements in 18-point or
- 2 larger type that accurately describes the adopted budget:
- 3 (A) "This budget will raise more revenue from
- 4 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 5 dollar amount of increase), which is a (insert percentage increase)
- 6 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 7 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 8 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 9 value of new property added to the roll).";
- 10 (B) "This budget will raise less revenue from
- 11 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 12 dollar amount of decrease), which is a (insert percentage decrease)
- 13 percent decrease from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 14 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 15 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 16 value of new property added to the roll)."; or
- 17 (C) "This budget will raise the same amount of
- 18 revenue from property taxes as last year's budget. The property tax
- 19 revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this
- 20 year is (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax
- 21 rate by the value of new property added to the roll).";
- 22 (2) the record vote of each member of the
- 23 commissioners court by name voting on the adoption of the budget;
- 24 (3) the county property tax rates for the preceding
- 25 fiscal year, and each county property tax rate that has been adopted
- 26 or calculated for the current fiscal year, including:
- 27 (A) the property tax rate;
- 28 (B) the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate;
- 29 (C) the no-new-revenue [effective] maintenance
- 30 and operations tax rate;
- 31 (D) the rollback tax rate; and

- 1 (E) the debt rate; and
- 2 (4) the total amount of county debt obligations.
- 3 SECTION 62. Section 111.039(d), Local Government Code, is
- 4 amended to read as follows:
- 5 (d) An adopted budget must contain a cover page that
- 6 includes:
- 7 (1) one of the following statements in 18-point or
- 8 larger type that accurately describes the adopted budget:
- 9 (A) "This budget will raise more revenue from
- 10 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 11 dollar amount of increase), which is a (insert percentage increase)
- 12 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 13 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 14 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 15 value of new property added to the roll).";
- 16 (B) "This budget will raise less revenue from
- 17 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 18 dollar amount of decrease), which is a (insert percentage decrease)
- 19 percent decrease from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 20 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 21 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 22 value of new property added to the roll)."; or
- 23 (C) "This budget will raise the same amount of
- 24 revenue from property taxes as last year's budget. The property tax
- 25 revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this
- 26 year is (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax
- 27 rate by the value of new property added to the roll).";
- 28 (2) the record vote of each member of the
- 29 commissioners court by name voting on the adoption of the budget;
- 30 (3) the county property tax rates for the preceding
- 31 fiscal year, and each county property tax rate that has been adopted

- 1 or calculated for the current fiscal year, including:
- 2 (A) the property tax rate;
- 3 (B) the no-new-revenue [effective] tax rate;
- 4 (C) the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] maintenance
- 5 and operations tax rate;
- 6 (D) the rollback tax rate; and
- 7 (E) the debt rate; and
- 8 (4) the total amount of county debt obligations.
- 9 SECTION 63. Section 111.068(c), Local Government Code, is
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- 11 (c) An adopted budget must contain a cover page that
- 12 includes:
- 13 (1) one of the following statements in 18-point or
- 14 larger type that accurately describes the adopted budget:
- 15 (A) "This budget will raise more revenue from
- 16 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 17 dollar amount of increase), which is a (insert percentage increase)
- 18 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 19 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 20 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 21 value of new property added to the roll).";
- 22 (B) "This budget will raise less revenue from
- 23 property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of (insert total
- 24 dollar amount of decrease), which is a (insert percentage decrease)
- 25 percent decrease from last year's budget. The property tax revenue
- 26 to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is
- 27 (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax rate by the
- 28 value of new property added to the roll)."; or
- 29 (C) "This budget will raise the same amount of
- 30 revenue from property taxes as last year's budget. The property tax
- 31 revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this

- l year is (insert amount computed by multiplying the proposed tax
- 2 rate by the value of new property added to the roll).";
- 3 (2) the record vote of each member of the
- 4 commissioners court by name voting on the adoption of the budget;
- 5 (3) the county property tax rates for the preceding
- 6 fiscal year, and each county property tax rate that has been adopted
- 7 or calculated for the current fiscal year, including:
- 8 (A) the property tax rate;
- 9 (B) the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] tax rate;
- 10 (C) the <u>no-new-revenue</u> [effective] maintenance
- 11 and operations tax rate;
- 12 (D) the rollback tax rate; and
- 13 (E) the debt rate; and
- 14 (4) the total amount of county debt obligations.
- 15 SECTION 64. Section 1101.254(f), Special District Local
- 16 Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 17 (f) This section does not affect the applicability of [any
- 18 rights district voters may have to petition for an election under]
- 19 Section 26.07, Tax Code, to the district's tax rate, except that if
- 20 district voters approve a tax rate increase under this section,
- 21 [the voters may not petition for an election under] Section 26.07,
- 22 Tax Code, does not apply [as] to the tax rate for that year.
- 23 SECTION 65. Sections 1122.2522 and 8876.152, Special
- 24 District Local Laws Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 25 Sec. 1122.2522. ROLLBACK TAX RATE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE.
- 26 [(a)] If in any year the board adopts a tax rate that exceeds the
- 27 rollback tax rate calculated as provided by Chapter 26, Tax Code,
- 28 [the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that]
- 29 an election under Section 26.07 of that code must be held to
- 30 determine whether or not to approve [reduce] the tax rate adopted by
- 31 the board for that year [to the rollback tax rate].

- 1 [(b) To the extent a conflict exists between this section
- 2 and a provision of the Tax Code, the provision of the Tax Code
- 3 prevails.]
- 4 Sec. 8876.152. APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN TAX PROVISIONS.
- 5 (a) Sections 26.04, 26.05, 26.06, 26.061, and 26.07, Tax Code, do
- 6 not apply to a tax imposed by the district.
- 7 (b) Sections 49.236(a)(1) and (2) and (b) [Section 49.236],
- 8 Water Code, apply [as added by Chapter 248 (H.B. 1541), Acts of the
- 9 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, applies] to the district.
- 10 SECTION 66. Section 49.107(g), Water Code, is amended to
- 11 read as follows:
- 12 (g) Sections 26.04, 26.05, <u>26.061</u>, and 26.07, Tax Code, do
- 13 not apply to a tax levied and collected under this section or an ad
- 14 valorem tax levied and collected for the payment of the interest on
- 15 and principal of bonds issued by a district.
- 16 SECTION 67. Section 49.108(f), Water Code, is amended to
- 17 read as follows:
- 18 (f) Sections 26.04, 26.05, <u>26.061</u>, and 26.07, Tax Code, do
- 19 not apply to a tax levied and collected for payments made under a
- 20 contract approved in accordance with this section.
- 21 SECTION 68. Sections 49.236(a) and (d), Water Code, as
- 22 added by Chapter 335 (S.B. 392), Acts of the 78th Legislature,
- 23 Regular Session, 2003, are amended to read as follows:
- 24 (a) Before the board adopts an ad valorem tax rate for the
- 25 district for debt service, operation and maintenance purposes, or
- 26 contract purposes, the board shall give notice of each meeting of
- 27 the board at which the adoption of a tax rate will be considered.
- 28 The notice must:
- 29 (1) contain a statement in substantially the following
- 30 form:

1 "NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

"The (name of the district) will hold a public hearing on a 2 3 proposed tax rate for the tax year (year of tax levy) on (date and 4 time) at (meeting place). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate 5 that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your 6 property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other 8 property [and the tax rate that is adopted]. The change in the 9 taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of 10

- "(Names of all board members and, if a vote was taken, an indication of how each voted on the proposed tax rate and an
- 14 indication of any absences.)";
- 15 (2) contain the following information:

the tax burden among all property owners.

- 16 (A) the district's total adopted tax rate for the 17 preceding year and the proposed tax rate, expressed as an amount per
- 19 (B) the difference, expressed as an amount per
- 20 \$100 and as a percent increase or decrease, as applicable, in the
- 21 proposed tax rate compared to the adopted tax rate for the preceding
- 22 year;

\$100;

11

18

- (C) the average appraised value of a residence
- 24 homestead in the district in the preceding year and in the current
- 25 year; the district's total homestead exemption, other than an
- 26 exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of
- 27 age or older, applicable to that appraised value in each of those
- 28 years; and the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the
- 29 district in each of those years, disregarding any homestead
- 30 exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of
- 31 age or older;

- 1 (D) the amount of tax that would have been
- 2 imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence
- 3 homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence
- 4 homestead in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption
- 5 available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or
- 6 older;
- 7 (E) the amount of tax that would be imposed by the
- 8 district in the current year on a residence homestead appraised at
- 9 the average appraised value of a residence homestead in that year,
- 10 disregarding any homestead exemption available only to disabled
- 11 persons or persons 65 years of age or older, if the proposed tax
- 12 rate is adopted; [and]
- 13 (F) the difference between the amounts of tax
- 14 calculated under Paragraphs (D) and (E), expressed in dollars and
- 15 cents and described as the annual percentage increase or decrease,
- 16 as applicable, in the tax to be imposed by the district on the
- 17 average residence homestead in the district in the current year if
- 18 the proposed tax rate is adopted; and
- 19 (G) if the proposed combined debt service,
- 20 operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate exceeds the
- 21 rollback tax rate, a description of the purpose of the proposed tax
- 22 increase; and
- 23 (3) contain a statement in substantially the following
- 24 form:
- 25 "NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE [TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION]
- "If operation and maintenance taxes on the average residence
- 27 homestead increase by more than six [eight] percent, [the qualified
- 28 voters of the district by petition may require that] an election
- 29 <u>must</u> be held to determine whether to approve [reduce] the operation
- 30 and maintenance tax rate [to the rollback tax rate] under Section
- 31 49.236(d), Water Code."

- 1 If the governing body of a district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that 2 3 exceeds the rollback tax rate, [would impose more than 1.08 times 4 the amount of tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on a 5 residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any 6 homestead exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older, the qualified voters of the district by 8 9 petition may require that] an election must be held to determine 10 whether [or not] to approve [reduce] the tax rate adopted for the current year [to-the rollback-tax-rate] in accordance with the 11 12 procedures provided by Sections 26.07(b)-(g) [and 26.081], Tax 13 Code. For purposes of Sections 26.07(b)-(g), Tax Code, and this 14 section [subsection], the rollback tax rate is the sum of the following tax rates: 15
- 16 <u>(1) the</u> current year's debt service <u>tax rate;</u>
- 17 (2) the current year's [and] contract tax rate;
- 18 $\underline{(3)}$ [rates plus] the operation and maintenance tax 19 rate that would impose $\underline{1.06}$ [1.08] times the amount of the operation 20 and maintenance tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on
- 21 a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a
- 22 residence homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any
- 23 homestead exemption available only to disabled persons or persons
- 24 65 years of age or older;
- 25 (4) the district's revenue enrichment rate, as defined
- 26 by Section 26.012, Tax Code; and
- 27 (5) the district's unused increment rate, as defined
- 28 by Section 26.012, Tax Code.
- 29 SECTION 69. The following provisions are repealed:
- 30 (1) Sections 403.302(m-1) and (n), Government Code;
- 31 (2) Section 140.010, Local Government Code;

1 (3) Section 1063.255, Special District Local Laws

3

- 2 Code;
- 3 (4) Sections 5.103(e) and (f), 6.412(e), 22.23(c), and
- 4 41A.06(c), Tax Code;
- 5 (5) Section 49.236, Water Code, as added by Chapter
- 6 248 (H.B. 1541), Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,
- 7 2003; and
- 8 (6) Section 49.2361, Water Code.
- 9 SECTION 70. Section 5.041, Tax Code, as amended by this Act,
- 10 applies only to an appraisal review board member appointed to serve
- 11 a term of office that begins on or after January 1, 2020.
- 12 SECTION 71. The comptroller of public accounts shall
- 13 implement Section 5.043, Tax Code, as added by this Act, as soon as
- 14 practicable after January 1, 2020.
- 15 SECTION 72. Sections 5.05, 5.102, 5.13, and 23.01, Tax
- 16 Code, as amended by this Act, apply only to the appraisal of
- 17 property for ad valorem tax purposes for a tax year beginning on or
- 18 after January 1, 2020.
- 19 SECTION 73. (a) The comptroller of public accounts shall
- 20 comply with Sections 5.07(f), (g), (h), and (i), Tax Code, as added
- 21 by this Act, as soon as practicable after January 1, 2020.
- 22 (b) The comptroller of public accounts shall comply with
- 23 Section 5.091, Tax Code, as amended by this Act, not later than:
- 24 (1) January 1, 2022, with regard to tax rate
- 25 information related to a taxing unit located wholly or partly in a
- 26 county with a population of 120,000 or more; and
- 27 (2) January 1, 2023, with regard to tax rate
- 28 information related to a taxing unit located wholly in a county with
- 29 a population of less than 120,000.
- 30 SECTION 74. The comptroller of public accounts shall
- 31 prepare and make available the survey form and instructions for

- 1 completing and submitting the form required by Section 5.104, Tax
- 2 Code, as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after January 1,
- 3 2020. An appraisal district is not required to provide the survey
- 4 form or instructions under a requirement of that section until the
- 5 form and instructions are prepared and made available by the
- 6 comptroller of public accounts.
- 7 SECTION 75. Section 6.41(d-9), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 8 Act, applies only to the appointment of appraisal review board
- 9 members to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2021.
- SECTION 76. Section 6.412, Tax Code, as amended by this Act,
- 11 does not affect the eligibility of a person serving on an appraisal
- 12 review board immediately before January 1, 2020, to continue to
- 13 serve on the board for the term to which the member was appointed.
- SECTION 77. Section 6.42(d), Tax Code, as added by this Act,
- 15 applies only to a recommendation, determination, decision, or other
- 16 action by an appraisal review board or a panel of such a board on or
- 17 after January 1, 2020. A recommendation, determination, decision,
- 18 or other action by an appraisal review board or a panel of such a
- 19 board before January 1, 2020, is governed by the law as it existed
- 20 immediately before that date, and that law is continued in effect
- 21 for that purpose.
- 22 SECTION 78. Section 22.23(d), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 23 Act, applies only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year
- 24 beginning on or after January 1, 2020.
- 25 SECTION 79. (a) An appraisal district established in a
- 26 county with a population of 120,000 or more and each taxing unit
- 27 located wholly or partly in such an appraisal district shall comply
- 28 with Sections 26.04(e-2), 26.05(d-1) and (d-2), 26.17, and 26.18,
- 29 Tax Code, as added by this Act, beginning with the 2021 tax year.
- 30 (b) An appraisal district established in a county with a
- 31 population of less than 120,000 and each taxing unit located wholly

- 1 in such an appraisal district shall comply with Sections
- 2 26.04(e-2), 26.05(d-1) and (d-2), 26.17, and 26.18, Tax Code, as
- 3 added by this Act, beginning with the 2022 tax year.
- 4 SECTION 80. (a) Not later than the 30th day after the date
- 5 this section takes effect:
- 6 (1) the designated officer or employee of each taxing
- 7 unit shall submit to the county assessor-collector for each county
- 8 in which all or part of the territory of the taxing unit is located
- 9 the worksheets used by the designated officer or employee to
- 10 calculate the effective and rollback tax rates of the taxing unit
- 11 for the 2015-2019 tax years; and
- 12 (2) the county assessor-collector for each county
- 13 shall post the worksheets submitted to the county
- 14 assessor-collector under Subdivision (1) of this subsection on the
- 15 Internet website of the county.
- 16 (b) This section takes effect immediately if this Act
- 17 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
- 18 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
- 19 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
- 20 effect, this section takes effect on the 91st day after the last day
- 21 of the legislative session.
- 22 SECTION 81. A taxing unit that does not own, operate, or
- 23 control an Internet website is not required to comply with Sections
- 24 26.05(b)(2) and 26.065(b), Tax Code, as amended by this Act, until
- 25 the first tax year in which the taxing unit is required by law to
- 26 maintain or have access to an Internet website.
- 27 SECTION 82. Section 41.03(a), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 28 Act, applies only to a challenge under Chapter 41, Tax Code, for
- 29 which a challenge petition is filed on or after January 1, 2020. A
- 30 challenge under Chapter 41, Tax Code, for which a challenge
- 31 petition was filed before January 1, 2020, is governed by the law in

- 1 effect on the date the challenge petition was filed, and the former
- 2 law is continued in effect for that purpose.
- 3 SECTION 83. Sections 41.45 and 41.66(k), Tax Code, as
- 4 amended by this Act, and Section 41.66(k-1), Tax Code, as added by
- 5 this Act, apply only to a protest filed under Chapter 41, Tax Code,
- 6 on or after January 1, 2021. A protest filed under that chapter
- 7 before January 1, 2021, is governed by the law in effect on the date
- 8 the protest was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for
- 9 that purpose.
- 10 SECTION 84. Sections 41.46, 41.461, 41.47, 41.66(h), (i),
- 11 and (j), and 41.67, Tax Code, as amended by this Act, and Sections
- 12 41.66(j-1) and (p), Tax Code, as added by this Act, apply only to a
- 13 protest for which the notice of protest was filed by a property
- 14 owner or the designated agent of the owner with the appraisal review
- 15 board established for an appraisal district on or after January 1,
- 16 2020.
- SECTION 85. Section 41.71, Tax Code, as amended by this Act,
- 18 applies only to a hearing on a protest under Chapter 41, Tax Code,
- 19 that is scheduled on or after January 1, 2020. A hearing on a
- 20 protest under Chapter 41, Tax Code, that is scheduled before
- 21 January 1, 2020, is governed by the law in effect on the date the
- 22 hearing was scheduled, and that law is continued in effect for that
- 23 purpose.
- 24 SECTION 86. Section 41A.07, Tax Code, as amended by this
- 25 Act, applies only to a request for binding arbitration received by
- 26 the comptroller of public accounts from an appraisal district on or
- 27 after January 1, 2020.
- SECTION 87. (a) A person who immediately before January 1,
- 29 2020, serves as an arbitrator in binding arbitrations of appeals of
- 30 appraisal review board orders must meet the requirements of Section
- 31 41A.06(b)(3), Tax Code, as added by this Act, not later than the

- 1 120th day after the date the comptroller of public accounts begins
- 2 to provide the training required under Section 5.043, Tax Code, as
- 3 added by this Act.
- 4 (b) This Act does not prohibit a person who is serving as an
- 5 arbitrator on January 1, 2020, from renewing the person's agreement
- 6 with the comptroller of public accounts to serve as an arbitrator if
- the person has the qualifications required for an arbitrator under
- 8 the Tax Code as amended by this Act.
- 9 SECTION 88. (a) Not later than the 30th day after the date
- 10 this section takes effect, the comptroller of public accounts shall
- 11 provide a written notice to each appraisal district of:
- 12 (1) the deadline for complying with each new
- 13 requirement, duty, or function imposed by this Act on an appraisal
- 14 district or taxing unit; and
- 15 (2) any change made by this Act to the deadline for
- 16 complying with an existing requirement, duty, or function of an
- 17 appraisal district or taxing unit.
- 18 (b) As soon as practicable after receipt of the notice
- 19 provided by the comptroller of public accounts under Subsection (a)
- 20 of this section, the chief appraiser of an appraisal district shall
- 21 forward the notice to each assessor for a taxing unit located in the
- 22 appraisal district.
- 23 (c) This section takes effect immediately if this Act
- 24 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
- 25 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
- 26 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
- 27 effect, this section takes effect on the 91st day after the last day
- 28 of the legislative session.
- 29 SECTION 89. (a) Except as otherwise provided by this Act,
- 30 this Act takes effect January 1, 2020.
- 31 (b) The following provisions take effect September 1, 2020:

- 1 (1) Sections 6.41(b) and (d-9), Tax Code, as amended
- 2 by this Act;
- 3 (2) Sections 6.41(b-1), (b-2), and (d-10), Tax Code,
- 4 as added by this Act;
- 5 (3) Section 6.414(d), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 6 Act;
- 7 (4) Section 6.425, Tax Code, as added by this Act;
- 8 (5) Section 41.44(d), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 9 Act;
- 10 (6) Section 41.45(d), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 11 Act;
- 12 (7) Sections 41.45(d-1), (d-2), and (d-3), Tax Code,
- 13 as added by this Act;
- 14 (8) Section 41.66(k), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 15 Act; and
- 16 (9) Section 41.66(k-1), Tax Code, as added by this
- 17 Act.
- 18 (c) The following provisions take effect January 1, 2021:
- 19 (1) Sections 25.19(b-3) and (b-4), Tax Code, as added
- 20 by this Act;
- 21 (2) Sections 26.04(d-1), (d-2), (d-3), (e-2), (e-3),
- 22 (e-4), and (e-5), Tax Code, as added by this Act;
- 23 (3) Sections 26.04(e-1) and (g), Tax Code, as amended
- 24 by this Act;
- 25 (4) Sections 26.05(d-1) and (d-2), Tax Code, as added
- 26 by this Act; and
- 27 (5) Section 26.05(e), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 28 Act.
- 29 (d) Sections 25.19(b) and (i), Tax Code, as amended by this
- 30 Act, take effect January 1, 2022.