By:  Murphy (Senate Sponsor - Hancock) H.B. No. 1254

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 4, 2019; April 8, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Property Tax; April 15, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 15, 2019, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Bettencourt     X

Paxton          X

Creighton       X

Hancock         X

Hinojosa        X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of land secured by a home equity loan to be designated for agricultural use for ad valorem tax purposes.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 23.42(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  An [~~Except as provided by Subsection (a-1), an~~] individual is entitled to have land he owns designated for agricultural use if, on January 1:

(1)  the land has been devoted exclusively to or developed continuously for agriculture for the three years preceding the current year;

(2)  the individual is using and intends to use the land for agriculture as an occupation or a business venture for profit during the current year; and

(3)  agriculture is the individual's primary occupation and primary source of income.

SECTION 2.  Section 23.42(a-1), Tax Code, is repealed.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect January 1, 2020.

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