

By: Johnson  
(Goodwin)

S.B. No. 334

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to disclosure under the public information law of certain records of an appraisal district.

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

SECTION 1. Section 552.149(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the property owner or the owner's agent may, on request, obtain from the chief appraiser of the applicable appraisal district a copy of each item of information described by Section 41.461(a)(2), Tax Code, and a copy of each item of information that the chief appraiser took into consideration but does not plan to introduce at the hearing on the protest. In addition, the property owner or agent may, on request, obtain from the chief appraiser comparable sales data from a reasonable number of sales that is relevant to any matter to be determined by the appraisal review board at the hearing on the property owner's protest or by the arbitrator at the hearing on the property owner's appeal under Chapter 41A, Tax Code, of the appraisal review board's order determining the protest.

Information obtained under this subsection:

(1) remains confidential in the possession of the property owner or agent; and

(2) may not be disclosed or used for any purpose except as evidence or argument at the hearing on:

1                    (A) the protest; or

2                    (B) the appeal under Chapter 41A, Tax Code.

3            SECTION 2. Section 552.149(e), Government Code, is  
4 repealed.

5            SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
6 a request described by Section 552.149(b), Government Code, as  
7 amended by this Act, received by the chief appraiser of an appraisal  
8 district on or after the effective date of this Act. A request  
9 received by a chief appraiser before the effective date of this Act  
10 is governed by the law in effect on the date the request was  
11 received, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
12 purpose.

13            SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.