By:  Bettencourt, et al. S.B. No. 2

(Meyer, Metcalf, Burrows, Raymond, Thierry, et al.)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to providing property tax relief through the public school finance system, exemptions, limitations on appraisals and taxes, and property tax administration; authorizing the imposition of a fee.

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

ARTICLE 1. SHORT TITLE

SECTION 1.01.  This Act may be cited as the Property Tax Relief Act.

ARTICLE 2. SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX RATE COMPRESSION

SECTION 2.01.  Subchapter F, Chapter 48, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 48.2555 and 48.283 to read as follows:

Sec. 48.2555.  MAXIMUM COMPRESSED TAX RATE FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR. (a)  Notwithstanding any other provision of this title or Chapter 26, Tax Code, for the 2023-2024 school year, the commissioner shall calculate the value of a school district's maximum compressed tax rate by determining the district's maximum compressed rate under Section 48.2551 or 48.2552(b), if applicable, and reducing the tax rate determined under the applicable section by $0.107.

(b)  If a school district's maximum compressed tax rate as calculated under Subsection (a) would be less than 90 percent of another school district's maximum compressed tax rate under Subsection (a), the district's maximum compressed tax rate is the value at which the district's maximum compressed tax rate would be equal to 90 percent of the other district's maximum compressed tax rate.

(c)  Notwithstanding any other provision of this title or Chapter 26, Tax Code, for purposes of determining funding for school districts for the 2023-2024 school year, a reference in any of the following provisions of law to a school district's maximum compressed tax rate or maximum compressed rate as determined under Section 48.2551 means the maximum compressed tax rate determined for the district under this section:

(1)  Section 13.054(f);

(2)  Section 45.003(d);

(3)  Section 45.0032(a);

(4)  Section 48.051(a);

(5)  Sections 48.2553(a) and (e);

(6)  Section 48.2556; and

(7)  Section 26.08(n), Tax Code.

(d)  For purposes of Section 30.003(f-1), a reference in that section to Section 48.2551 includes this section.

(e)  Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, for purposes of determining a school district's maximum compressed tax rate under Section 48.2551 for the 2024-2025 school year, the value of the district's "PYMCR" is the maximum compressed tax rate determined for the district under this section for the preceding school year.

(f)  This section expires September 1, 2025.

Sec. 48.283.  ADDITIONAL STATE AID FOR CERTAIN DISTRICTS IMPACTED BY COMPRESSION. A school district that received an adjustment under Section 48.257(b) for the 2022-2023 school year is entitled to additional state aid for each school year in an amount equal to the amount of that adjustment for the 2022-2023 school year less the difference, if the difference is greater than zero, between:

(1)  the amount to which the district is entitled under this chapter for the current school year; and

(2)  the amount to which the district would be entitled under this chapter for the current school year if the district's maximum compressed tax rate had not been reduced under Section 48.2555, as added by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023.

ARTICLE 3. SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

SECTION 3.01.  Section 11.13, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (n-1) to read as follows:

(b)  An adult is entitled to exemption from taxation by a school district of $100,000 [~~$40,000~~] of the appraised value of the adult's residence homestead, except that only $5,000 of the exemption applies to an entity operating under former Chapter 17, 18, 25, 26, 27, or 28, Education Code, as those chapters existed on May 1, 1995, as permitted by Section 11.301, Education Code.

(n-1)  The governing body of a school district, municipality, or county that adopted an exemption under Subsection (n) for the 2022 tax year may not reduce the amount of or repeal the exemption. This subsection expires December 31, 2027.

SECTION 3.02.  Section 11.26, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (a-10), and (o) and adding Subsections (a-11) and (a-12) to read as follows:

(a)  The tax officials shall appraise the property to which this section applies and calculate taxes as on other property, but if the tax so calculated exceeds the limitation imposed by this section, the tax imposed is the amount of the tax as limited by this section, except as otherwise provided by this section. A school district may not increase the total annual amount of ad valorem tax it imposes on the residence homestead of an individual 65 years of age or older or on the residence homestead of an individual who is disabled, as defined by Section 11.13, above the amount of the tax it imposed in the first tax year in which the individual qualified that residence homestead for the applicable exemption provided by Section 11.13(c) for an individual who is 65 years of age or older or is disabled. If the individual qualified that residence homestead for the exemption after the beginning of that first year and the residence homestead remains eligible for the same exemption for the next year, and if the school district taxes imposed on the residence homestead in the next year are less than the amount of taxes imposed in that first year, a school district may not subsequently increase the total annual amount of ad valorem taxes it imposes on the residence homestead above the amount it imposed in the year immediately following the first year for which the individual qualified that residence homestead for the same exemption, except as provided by Subsection (b). [~~If the first tax year the individual qualified the residence homestead for the exemption provided by Section 11.13(c) for individuals 65 years of age or older or disabled was a tax year before the 2015 tax year, the amount of the limitation provided by this section is the amount of tax the school district imposed for the 2014 tax year less an amount equal to the amount determined by multiplying $10,000 times the tax rate of the school district for the 2015 tax year, plus any 2015 tax attributable to improvements made in 2014, other than improvements made to comply with governmental regulations or repairs.~~]

(a-10)  Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, if in the 2024 or a subsequent tax year an individual qualifies for a limitation on tax increases provided by this section on the individual's residence homestead, the amount of the limitation provided by this section on the homestead is equal to the amount computed by:

(1)  multiplying the taxable value of the homestead in the preceding tax year by a tax rate equal to the difference between the school district's maximum compressed rate for the preceding tax year and the district's maximum compressed rate for the current tax year;

(2)  subtracting the amount computed under Subdivision (1) from the amount of tax the district imposed on the homestead in the preceding tax year; [~~and~~]

(3)  adding any tax imposed in the current tax year attributable to improvements made in the preceding tax year as provided by Subsection (b) to the amount computed under Subdivision (2);

(4)  multiplying the amount of any increase in the current tax year as compared to the preceding tax year in the aggregate amount of the exemptions to which the individual is entitled under Sections 11.13(b) and (c) by the school district's tax rate for the current tax year; and

(5)  subtracting the amount computed under Subdivision (4) from the amount computed under Subdivision (3).

(a-11)  This subsection applies only to an individual who in the 2023 tax year qualifies for a limitation under this section and for whom the 2022 tax year or an earlier tax year was the first tax year the individual or the individual's spouse qualified for an exemption under Section 11.13(c). The amount of the limitation provided by this section on the residence homestead of an individual to which this subsection applies for the 2023 tax year is the amount of the limitation as computed under Subsection (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), or (a-9) of this section, as applicable, less an amount equal to the product of $60,000 and the tax rate of the school district for the 2023 tax year. This subsection expires January 1, 2025.

(a-12)  This subsection applies only to an individual who in the 2023 tax year qualifies for a limitation under this section and for whom the 2021 tax year or an earlier tax year was the first tax year the individual or the individual's spouse qualified for an exemption under Section 11.13(c). The amount of the limitation provided by this section on the residence homestead of an individual to which this subsection applies for the 2023 tax year is the amount of the limitation as computed under Subsection (a-11) of this section less an amount equal to the product of $15,000 and the tax rate of the school district for the 2022 tax year. This subsection expires January 1, 2025.

(o)  Notwithstanding Subsections (a)[~~, (a-3),~~] and (b), an improvement to property that would otherwise constitute an improvement under Subsection (b) is not treated as an improvement under that subsection if the improvement is a replacement structure for a structure that was rendered uninhabitable or unusable by a casualty or by wind or water damage. For purposes of appraising the property in the tax year in which the structure would have constituted an improvement under Subsection (b), the replacement structure is considered to be an improvement under that subsection only if:

(1)  the square footage of the replacement structure exceeds that of the replaced structure as that structure existed before the casualty or damage occurred; or

(2)  the exterior of the replacement structure is of higher quality construction and composition than that of the replaced structure.

SECTION 3.03.  Section 46.071, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a-1) and (b-1) and adding Subsections (a-2), (b-2), and (c-2) to read as follows:

(a-1)  For [~~Beginning with~~] the 2022-2023 school year, a school district is entitled to additional state aid under this subchapter to the extent that state and local revenue used to service debt eligible under this chapter is less than the state and local revenue that would have been available to the district under this chapter as it existed on September 1, 2021, if any increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, as proposed by the 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2021, had not occurred.

(a-2)  Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, a school district is entitled to additional state aid under this subchapter to the extent that state and local revenue used to service debt eligible under this chapter is less than the state and local revenue that would have been available to the district under this chapter as it existed on September 1, 2022, if any increase in a residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, and any additional limitation on tax increases under Section 1-b(d) of that article as proposed by the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, had not occurred.

(b-1)  Subject to Subsections (c-1), (d), and (e), additional state aid under this section for [~~beginning with~~] the 2022-2023 school year is equal to the amount by which the loss of local interest and sinking revenue for debt service attributable to any increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, as proposed by the 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2021, is not offset by a gain in state aid under this chapter.

(b-2)  Subject to Subsections (c-2), (d), and (e), additional state aid under this section beginning with the 2023-2024 school year is equal to the amount by which the loss of local interest and sinking revenue for debt service attributable to any increase in a residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, and any additional limitation on tax increases under Section 1-b(d) of that article as proposed by the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, is not offset by a gain in state aid under this chapter.

(c-2)  For the purpose of determining state aid under Subsections (a-2) and (b-2), local interest and sinking revenue for debt service is limited to revenue required to service debt eligible under this chapter as of September 1, 2023, or authorized by the voters but not yet issued as of September 1, 2023, that later becomes eligible under this chapter, including refunding of that debt, subject to Section 46.061. The limitation imposed by Section 46.034(a) does not apply for the purpose of determining state aid under this section.

SECTION 3.04.  Section 48.2542, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 48.2542.  ADDITIONAL STATE AID FOR ADJUSTMENT OF LIMITATION ON TAX INCREASES ON HOMESTEAD OF ELDERLY OR DISABLED. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if a school district is not fully compensated through state aid or the calculation of excess local revenue under this chapter based on the determination of the district's taxable value of property under Subchapter M, Chapter 403, Government Code, the district is entitled to additional state aid in the amount necessary to fully compensate the district for the amount of ad valorem tax revenue lost due to a reduction of the amount of the limitation on tax increases provided by Sections 11.26(a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), [~~and~~] (a-10), (a-11), and (a-12), Tax Code, as applicable.

SECTION 3.05.  Effective January 1, 2025, Section 48.2542, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 48.2542.  ADDITIONAL STATE AID FOR ADJUSTMENT OF LIMITATION ON TAX INCREASES ON HOMESTEAD OF ELDERLY OR DISABLED. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if a school district is not fully compensated through state aid or the calculation of excess local revenue under this chapter based on the determination of the district's taxable value of property under Subchapter M, Chapter 403, Government Code, the district is entitled to additional state aid in the amount necessary to fully compensate the district for the amount of ad valorem tax revenue lost due to a reduction of the amount of the limitation on tax increases provided by Section 11.26(a-10) [~~Sections 11.26(a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10)~~], Tax Code[~~, as applicable~~].

SECTION 3.06.  Section 48.2543, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 48.2543.  ADDITIONAL STATE AID FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION. (a) For [~~Beginning with~~] the 2022-2023 school year, a school district is entitled to additional state aid to the extent that state and local revenue under this chapter and Chapter 49 is less than the state and local revenue that would have been available to the district under this chapter and Chapter 49 as those chapters existed on September 1, 2021, if any increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, as proposed by the 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2021, had not occurred.

(a-1)  Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, a school district is entitled to additional state aid to the extent that state and local revenue under this chapter and Chapter 49 is less than the state and local revenue that would have been available to the district under this chapter and Chapter 49 as those chapters existed on September 1, 2022, if any increase in a residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, and any additional limitation on tax increases under Section 1-b(d) of that article as proposed by the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, had not occurred.

(b)  The lesser of the school district's currently adopted maintenance and operations tax rate or the adopted maintenance and operations tax rate for:

(1)  the 2021 tax year is used for the purpose of determining additional state aid under Subsection (a); and

(2)  the 2022 tax year is used for the purpose of determining additional state aid under Subsection (a-1).

SECTION 3.07.  Section 48.2556(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  The agency shall post the following information on the agency's Internet website for purposes of allowing the chief appraiser of each appraisal district and the assessor for each school district to make the calculations required by Sections 11.26(a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), [~~and~~] (a-10), (a-11), and (a-12), Tax Code:

(1)  each school district's maximum compressed rate, as determined under Section 48.2551, for each tax year beginning with the 2019 tax year; and

(2)  each school district's tier one maintenance and operations tax rate, as provided by Section 45.0032(a), for the 2018 tax year.

SECTION 3.08.  Effective January 1, 2025, Section 48.2556(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  For purposes of allowing the chief appraiser of each appraisal district and the assessor for each school district to make the calculations required by Section 11.26(a-10), Tax Code, the [~~The~~] agency shall post [~~the following information~~] on the agency's Internet website [~~for purposes of allowing the chief appraiser of each appraisal district and the assessor for each school district to make the calculations required by Sections 11.26(a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10), Tax Code:~~

[~~(1)~~]  each school district's maximum compressed rate, as determined under Section 48.2551, for the current [~~each~~] tax year and the preceding [~~beginning with the 2019~~] tax year[~~; and~~

[~~(2)  each school district's tier one maintenance and operations tax rate, as provided by Section 45.0032(a), for the 2018 tax year~~].

SECTION 3.09.  Section 49.004, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1), (b-1), and (c-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  This subsection applies only if the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, is approved by the voters in an election held for that purpose. As soon as practicable after receiving revised property values that reflect adoption of the constitutional amendment, the commissioner shall review the local revenue level of districts in the state and revise as necessary the notifications provided under Subsection (a) for the 2023-2024 school year. This subsection expires September 1, 2024.

(b-1)  This subsection applies only to a district that has not previously held an election under this chapter. Notwithstanding Subsection (b), a district that enters into an agreement to exercise an option to reduce the district's local revenue level in excess of entitlement under Section 49.002(3), (4), or (5) for the 2023-2024 school year may request and, as provided by Section 49.0042(a), receive approval from the commissioner to delay the date of the election otherwise required to be ordered before September 1. This subsection expires September 1, 2024.

(c-1)  Notwithstanding Subsection (c), a district that receives approval from the commissioner to delay an election as provided by Subsection (b-1) may adopt a tax rate for the 2023 tax year before the commissioner certifies that the district has reduced its local revenue level to the level established by Section 48.257. This subsection expires September 1, 2024.

SECTION 3.10.  Subchapter A, Chapter 49, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 49.0042 to read as follows:

Sec. 49.0042.  TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS: INCREASED HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AND LIMITATION ON TAX INCREASES. (a) The commissioner shall approve a district's request under Section 49.004(b-1) to delay the date of an election required under this chapter if the commissioner determines that the district would not have a local revenue level in excess of entitlement if the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were approved by the voters.

(b)  The commissioner shall set a date by which each district that receives approval under this section must order the election.

(c)  Not later than the 2024-2025 school year, the commissioner shall order detachment and annexation of property under Subchapter G or consolidation under Subchapter H as necessary to reduce the district's local revenue level to the level established by Section 48.257 for a district that receives approval under this section and subsequently:

(1)  fails to hold the election; or

(2)  does not receive voter approval at the election.

(d)  This section expires September 1, 2025.

SECTION 3.11.  Subchapter A, Chapter 49, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 49.0121 to read as follows:

Sec. 49.0121.  TRANSITIONAL ELECTION DATES. (a)  This section applies only to an election under this chapter that occurs during the 2023-2024 school year.

(b)  Section 49.012 does not apply to a district that receives approval of a request under Section 49.0042. The district shall hold the election on a Tuesday or Saturday on or before a date specified by the commissioner. Section 41.001, Election Code, does not apply to the election.

(c)  This section expires September 1, 2024.

SECTION 3.12.  Section 49.154, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-2) and (a-3) to read as follows:

(a-2)  Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (a-1), a district that receives approval of a request under Section 49.0042 shall pay for credit purchased:

(1)  in equal monthly payments as determined by the commissioner beginning March 15, 2024, and ending August 15, 2024; or

(2)  in the manner provided by Subsection (a)(2), provided that the district notifies the commissioner of the district's election to pay in that manner not later than March 15, 2024.

(a-3)  Subsection (a-2) and this subsection expire September 1, 2024.

SECTION 3.13.  Section 49.308, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  Notwithstanding Subsection (a), for the 2023-2024 school year, the commissioner shall order any detachments and annexations of property under this subchapter as soon as practicable after the canvass of the votes on the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023. This subsection expires September 1, 2024.

SECTION 3.14.  Section 403.302, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (j-1) and adding Subsection (j-2) to read as follows:

(j-1)  In the final certification of the study under Subsection (j), the comptroller shall separately identify the final taxable value for each school district as adjusted to account for the reduction of the amount of the limitation on tax increases provided by Section 11.26(a-10) [~~Sections 11.26(a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10)~~], Tax Code[~~, as applicable~~].

(j-2)  In the final certification of the study under Subsection (j), the comptroller shall separately identify the final taxable value for each school district as adjusted to account for the reduction of the amount of the limitation on tax increases provided by Sections 11.26(a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), (a-10), (a-11), and (a-12), Tax Code. This subsection expires January 1, 2025.

SECTION 3.15.  (a) Sections 11.26(a-1), (a-2), and (a-3), Tax Code, are repealed.

(b)  Effective January 1, 2025, Sections 11.26(a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), and (a-9), Tax Code, are repealed.

SECTION 3.16.  Sections 11.13 and 11.26, Tax Code, as amended by this article, apply only to an ad valorem tax year that begins on or after January 1, 2023.

ARTICLE 4. CIRCUIT BREAKER LIMITATION ON INCREASES IN VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD

SECTION 4.01.  Section 1.12(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  For purposes of this section, the appraisal ratio of property [~~a homestead~~] to which Section 23.23 or 23.231 applies is the ratio of the property's market value as determined by the appraisal district or appraisal review board, as applicable, to the market value of the property according to law. The appraisal ratio is not calculated according to the appraised value of the property as limited by Section 23.23 or 23.231.

SECTION 4.02.  Effective January 1, 2027, Section 1.12(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  For purposes of this section, the appraisal ratio of a homestead to which Section 23.23 applies is the ratio of the property's market value as determined by the appraisal district or appraisal review board, as applicable, to the market value of the property according to law.  The appraisal ratio is not calculated according to the appraised value of the property as limited by Section 23.23.

SECTION 4.03.  Subchapter B, Chapter 23, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 23.231 to read as follows:

Sec. 23.231.  CIRCUIT BREAKER LIMITATION ON APPRAISED VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD. (a)  In this section:

(1)  "Consumer price index" means the average over a state fiscal year of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), U.S. City Average, published monthly by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, or its successor in function.

(2)  "Disaster recovery program" means a disaster recovery program funded with community development block grant disaster recovery money authorized by federal law.

(3)  "New improvement" means an improvement to real property made after the most recent appraisal of the property that increases the market value of the property and the value of which is not included in the appraised value of the property for the preceding tax year. The term does not include repairs to or ordinary maintenance of an existing structure or the grounds or another feature of the property.

(b)  This section applies only to real property with an appraised value of not more than the amount determined under Subsection (j) for the tax year in which the property first qualifies for the circuit breaker limitation authorized by this section.

(c)  This section does not apply to:

(1)  a residence homestead that qualifies for an exemption under Section 11.13; or

(2)  property appraised under Subchapter C, D, E, F, G, or H.

(d)  Notwithstanding the requirements of Section 25.18 and regardless of whether the appraisal office has appraised the property and determined the market value of the property for the tax year, an appraisal office may increase the appraised value of real property to which this section applies for a tax year to an amount not to exceed the lesser of:

(1)  the market value of the property for the most recent tax year that the market value was determined by the appraisal office; or

(2)  the sum of:

(A)  20 percent of the appraised value of the property for the preceding tax year;

(B)  the appraised value of the property for the preceding tax year; and

(C)  the market value of all new improvements to the property.

(e)  When appraising real property to which this section applies, the chief appraiser shall:

(1)  appraise the property at its market value; and

(2)  include in the appraisal records both the market value of the property and the amount computed under Subsection (d)(2).

(f)  The circuit breaker limitation provided by Subsection (d) takes effect as to a parcel of real property on January 1 of the tax year following the first tax year in which the owner owns the property on January 1. The circuit breaker limitation expires on January 1 of the tax year following the tax year in which the owner of the property ceases to own the property.

(g)  For purposes of Subsection (f), a person who acquired real property to which this section applies before the 2023 tax year is considered to have acquired the property on January 1, 2023.

(h)  Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (d) and except as provided by Subdivision (2) of this subsection, an improvement to real property that would otherwise constitute a new improvement is not treated as a new improvement if the improvement is a replacement structure for a structure that was rendered uninhabitable or unusable by a casualty or by wind or water damage. For purposes of appraising the property under Subsection (d) in the tax year in which the structure would have constituted a new improvement:

(1)  the appraised value the property would have had in the preceding tax year if the casualty or damage had not occurred is considered to be the appraised value of the property for that year, regardless of whether that appraised value exceeds the actual appraised value of the property for that year as limited by Subsection (d); and

(2)  the replacement structure is considered to be a new improvement only if:

(A)  the square footage of the replacement structure exceeds that of the replaced structure as that structure existed before the casualty or damage occurred; or

(B)  the exterior of the replacement structure is of higher quality construction and composition than that of the replaced structure.

(i)  Notwithstanding Subsection (h)(2), and only to the extent necessary to satisfy the requirements of a disaster recovery program, a replacement structure described by that subdivision is not considered to be a new improvement if to satisfy the requirements of the disaster recovery program it was necessary that:

(1)  the square footage of the replacement structure exceed that of the replaced structure as that structure existed before the casualty or damage occurred; or

(2)  the exterior of the replacement structure be of higher quality construction and composition than that of the replaced structure.

(j)  For the purpose of Subsection (b), for the 2024 tax year, the amount is $5 million. For the 2025 tax year, the comptroller shall determine the amount for purposes of Subsection (b) by increasing or decreasing, as applicable, the amount in effect for the 2024 tax year by an amount equal to $5 million multiplied by the percentage increase or decrease during the preceding state fiscal year in the consumer price index. For each subsequent tax year, the comptroller shall determine the amount for purposes of Subsection (b) by increasing or decreasing, as applicable, the amount in effect for the preceding tax year by an amount equal to that amount multiplied by the percentage increase or decrease during the preceding state fiscal year in the consumer price index, rounded to the nearest $10,000. The comptroller shall publish the amount in effect for a tax year under this subsection as soon as practicable after January 1 of the tax year.

(k)  This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 4.04.  Sections 25.19(b) and (g), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b)  The chief appraiser shall separate real from personal property and include in the notice for each:

(1)  a list of the taxing units in which the property is taxable;

(2)  the appraised value of the property in the preceding year;

(3)  the taxable value of the property in the preceding year for each taxing unit taxing the property;

(4)  the appraised value of the property for the current year, the kind and amount of each exemption and partial exemption, if any, approved for the property for the current year and for the preceding year, and, if an exemption or partial exemption that was approved for the preceding year was canceled or reduced for the current year, the amount of the exemption or partial exemption canceled or reduced;

(4-a)  a statement of whether the property qualifies for the circuit breaker limitation on appraised value provided by Section 23.231;

(5)  in italic typeface, the following statement: "The Texas Legislature does not set the amount of your local taxes. Your property tax burden is decided by your locally elected officials, and all inquiries concerning your taxes should be directed to those officials";

(6)  a detailed explanation of the time and procedure for protesting the value;

(7)  the date and place the appraisal review board will begin hearing protests;

(8)  an explanation of the availability and purpose of an informal conference with the appraisal office before a hearing on a protest; and

(9)  a brief explanation that the governing body of each taxing unit decides whether or not taxes on the property will increase and the appraisal district only determines the value of the property.

(g)  By April 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable if the property is a single-family residence that qualifies for an exemption under Section 11.13, or by May 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable in connection with any other property, the chief appraiser shall deliver a written notice to the owner of each property not included in a notice required to be delivered under Subsection (a), if the property was reappraised in the current tax year, if the ownership of the property changed during the preceding year, or if the property owner or the agent of a property owner authorized under Section 1.111 makes a written request for the notice.  The chief appraiser shall separate real from personal property and include in the notice for each property:

(1)  the appraised value of the property in the preceding year;

(2)  the appraised value of the property for the current year and the kind of each partial exemption, if any, approved for the current year;

(2-a)  a statement of whether the property qualifies for the circuit breaker limitation on appraised value provided by Section 23.231;

(3)  a detailed explanation of the time and procedure for protesting the value; and

(4)  the date and place the appraisal review board will begin hearing protests.

SECTION 4.05.  Effective January 1, 2027, Sections 25.19(b) and (g), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b)  The chief appraiser shall separate real from personal property and include in the notice for each:

(1)  a list of the taxing units in which the property is taxable;

(2)  the appraised value of the property in the preceding year;

(3)  the taxable value of the property in the preceding year for each taxing unit taxing the property;

(4)  the appraised value of the property for the current year, the kind and amount of each exemption and partial exemption, if any, approved for the property for the current year and for the preceding year, and, if an exemption or partial exemption that was approved for the preceding year was canceled or reduced for the current year, the amount of the exemption or partial exemption canceled or reduced;

(5)  in italic typeface, the following statement: "The Texas Legislature does not set the amount of your local taxes. Your property tax burden is decided by your locally elected officials, and all inquiries concerning your taxes should be directed to those officials";

(6)  a detailed explanation of the time and procedure for protesting the value;

(7)  the date and place the appraisal review board will begin hearing protests;

(8)  an explanation of the availability and purpose of an informal conference with the appraisal office before a hearing on a protest; and

(9)  a brief explanation that the governing body of each taxing unit decides whether or not taxes on the property will increase and the appraisal district only determines the value of the property.

(g)  By April 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable if the property is a single-family residence that qualifies for an exemption under Section 11.13, or by May 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable in connection with any other property, the chief appraiser shall deliver a written notice to the owner of each property not included in a notice required to be delivered under Subsection (a), if the property was reappraised in the current tax year, if the ownership of the property changed during the preceding year, or if the property owner or the agent of a property owner authorized under Section 1.111 makes a written request for the notice.  The chief appraiser shall separate real from personal property and include in the notice for each property:

(1)  the appraised value of the property in the preceding year;

(2)  the appraised value of the property for the current year and the kind of each partial exemption, if any, approved for the current year;

(3)  a detailed explanation of the time and procedure for protesting the value; and

(4)  the date and place the appraisal review board will begin hearing protests.

SECTION 4.06.  Section 25.19, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (o) to read as follows:

(o)  A notice required under Subsection (a) or (g) to be delivered to the owner of real property other than a single-family residence that qualifies for an exemption under Section 11.13 must include the following statement: "Under Section 23.231, Tax Code, for the 2024, 2025, and 2026 tax years, the appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes may not be increased by more than 20 percent each year, with certain exceptions. The circuit breaker limitation provided under Section 23.231, Tax Code, expires December 31, 2026. Unless this expiration date is extended by the Texas Legislature, beginning in the 2027 tax year, the circuit breaker limitation provided under Section 23.231, Tax Code, will no longer be in effect and may result in an increase in ad valorem taxes imposed on real property previously subject to the limitation." This subsection expires December 31, 2027.

SECTION 4.07.  Section 41.41(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A property owner is entitled to protest before the appraisal review board the following actions:

(1)  determination of the appraised value of the owner's property or, in the case of land appraised as provided by Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23, determination of its appraised or market value;

(2)  unequal appraisal of the owner's property;

(3)  inclusion of the owner's property on the appraisal records;

(4)  denial to the property owner in whole or in part of a partial exemption;

(4-a)  determination that the owner's property does not qualify for the circuit breaker limitation on appraised value provided by Section 23.231;

(5)  determination that the owner's land does not qualify for appraisal as provided by Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23;

(6)  identification of the taxing units in which the owner's property is taxable in the case of the appraisal district's appraisal roll;

(7)  determination that the property owner is the owner of property;

(8)  a determination that a change in use of land appraised under Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23, has occurred; or

(9)  any other action of the chief appraiser, appraisal district, or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affects the property owner.

SECTION 4.08.  Effective January 1, 2027, Section 41.41(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A property owner is entitled to protest before the appraisal review board the following actions:

(1)  determination of the appraised value of the owner's property or, in the case of land appraised as provided by Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23, determination of its appraised or market value;

(2)  unequal appraisal of the owner's property;

(3)  inclusion of the owner's property on the appraisal records;

(4)  denial to the property owner in whole or in part of a partial exemption;

(5)  determination that the owner's land does not qualify for appraisal as provided by Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23;

(6)  identification of the taxing units in which the owner's property is taxable in the case of the appraisal district's appraisal roll;

(7)  determination that the property owner is the owner of property;

(8)  a determination that a change in use of land appraised under Subchapter C, D, E, or H, Chapter 23, has occurred; or

(9)  any other action of the chief appraiser, appraisal district, or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affects the property owner.

SECTION 4.09.  Section 42.26(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  For purposes of this section, the value of the property subject to the suit and the value of a comparable property or sample property that is used for comparison must be the market value determined by the appraisal district when the property is [~~a residence homestead~~] subject to the limitation on appraised value imposed by Section 23.23 or 23.231.

SECTION 4.10.  Effective January 1, 2027, Section 42.26(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  For purposes of this section, the value of the property subject to the suit and the value of a comparable property or sample property that is used for comparison must be the market value determined by the appraisal district when the property is a residence homestead subject to the limitation on appraised value imposed by Section 23.23.

SECTION 4.11.  Sections 403.302(d) and (i), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d)  For the purposes of this section, "taxable value" means the market value of all taxable property less:

(1)  the total dollar amount of any residence homestead exemptions lawfully granted under Section 11.13(b) or (c), Tax Code, in the year that is the subject of the study for each school district;

(2)  one-half of the total dollar amount of any residence homestead exemptions granted under Section 11.13(n), Tax Code, in the year that is the subject of the study for each school district;

(3)  the total dollar amount of any exemptions granted before May 31, 1993, within a reinvestment zone under agreements authorized by Chapter 312, Tax Code;

(4)  subject to Subsection (e), the total dollar amount of any captured appraised value of property that:

(A)  is within a reinvestment zone created on or before May 31, 1999, or is proposed to be included within the boundaries of a reinvestment zone as the boundaries of the zone and the proposed portion of tax increment paid into the tax increment fund by a school district are described in a written notification provided by the municipality or the board of directors of the zone to the governing bodies of the other taxing units in the manner provided by former Section 311.003(e), Tax Code, before May 31, 1999, and within the boundaries of the zone as those boundaries existed on September 1, 1999, including subsequent improvements to the property regardless of when made;

(B)  generates taxes paid into a tax increment fund created under Chapter 311, Tax Code, under a reinvestment zone financing plan approved under Section 311.011(d), Tax Code, on or before September 1, 1999; and

(C)  is eligible for tax increment financing under Chapter 311, Tax Code;

(5)  the total dollar amount of any captured appraised value of property that:

(A)  is within a reinvestment zone:

(i)  created on or before December 31, 2008, by a municipality with a population of less than 18,000; and

(ii)  the project plan for which includes the alteration, remodeling, repair, or reconstruction of a structure that is included on the National Register of Historic Places and requires that a portion of the tax increment of the zone be used for the improvement or construction of related facilities or for affordable housing;

(B)  generates school district taxes that are paid into a tax increment fund created under Chapter 311, Tax Code; and

(C)  is eligible for tax increment financing under Chapter 311, Tax Code;

(6)  the total dollar amount of any exemptions granted under Section 11.251 or 11.253, Tax Code;

(7)  the difference between the comptroller's estimate of the market value and the productivity value of land that qualifies for appraisal on the basis of its productive capacity, except that the productivity value estimated by the comptroller may not exceed the fair market value of the land;

(8)  the portion of the appraised value of residence homesteads of individuals who receive a tax limitation under Section 11.26, Tax Code, on which school district taxes are not imposed in the year that is the subject of the study, calculated as if the residence homesteads were appraised at the full value required by law;

(9)  a portion of the market value of property not otherwise fully taxable by the district at market value because of action required by statute or the constitution of this state, other than Section 11.311, Tax Code, that, if the tax rate adopted by the district is applied to it, produces an amount equal to the difference between the tax that the district would have imposed on the property if the property were fully taxable at market value and the tax that the district is actually authorized to impose on the property, if this subsection does not otherwise require that portion to be deducted;

(10)  the market value of all tangible personal property, other than manufactured homes, owned by a family or individual and not held or used for the production of income;

(11)  the appraised value of property the collection of delinquent taxes on which is deferred under Section 33.06, Tax Code;

(12)  the portion of the appraised value of property the collection of delinquent taxes on which is deferred under Section 33.065, Tax Code;

(13)  the amount by which the market value of property [~~a residence homestead~~] to which Section 23.23 or 23.231, Tax Code, applies exceeds the appraised value of that property as calculated under Section 23.23 or 23.231, Tax Code, as applicable [~~that section~~]; and

(14)  the total dollar amount of any exemptions granted under Section 11.35, Tax Code.

(i)  If the comptroller determines in the study that the market value of property in a school district as determined by the appraisal district that appraises property for the school district, less the total of the amounts and values listed in Subsection (d) as determined by that appraisal district, is valid, the comptroller, in determining the taxable value of property in the school district under Subsection (d), shall for purposes of Subsection (d)(13) subtract from the market value as determined by the appraisal district of properties [~~residence homesteads~~] to which Section 23.23 or 23.231, Tax Code, applies the amount by which that amount exceeds the appraised value of those properties as calculated by the appraisal district under Section 23.23 or 23.231, Tax Code, as applicable.  If the comptroller determines in the study that the market value of property in a school district as determined by the appraisal district that appraises property for the school district, less the total of the amounts and values listed in Subsection (d) as determined by that appraisal district, is not valid, the comptroller, in determining the taxable value of property in the school district under Subsection (d), shall for purposes of Subsection (d)(13) subtract from the market value as estimated by the comptroller of properties [~~residence homesteads~~] to which Section 23.23 or 23.231, Tax Code, applies the amount by which that amount exceeds the appraised value of those properties as calculated by the appraisal district under Section 23.23 or 23.231, Tax Code, as applicable.

SECTION 4.12.  Effective January 1, 2027, Sections 403.302(d) and (i), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d)  For the purposes of this section, "taxable value" means the market value of all taxable property less:

(1)  the total dollar amount of any residence homestead exemptions lawfully granted under Section 11.13(b) or (c), Tax Code, in the year that is the subject of the study for each school district;

(2)  one-half of the total dollar amount of any residence homestead exemptions granted under Section 11.13(n), Tax Code, in the year that is the subject of the study for each school district;

(3)  the total dollar amount of any exemptions granted before May 31, 1993, within a reinvestment zone under agreements authorized by Chapter 312, Tax Code;

(4)  subject to Subsection (e), the total dollar amount of any captured appraised value of property that:

(A)  is within a reinvestment zone created on or before May 31, 1999, or is proposed to be included within the boundaries of a reinvestment zone as the boundaries of the zone and the proposed portion of tax increment paid into the tax increment fund by a school district are described in a written notification provided by the municipality or the board of directors of the zone to the governing bodies of the other taxing units in the manner provided by former Section 311.003(e), Tax Code, before May 31, 1999, and within the boundaries of the zone as those boundaries existed on September 1, 1999, including subsequent improvements to the property regardless of when made;

(B)  generates taxes paid into a tax increment fund created under Chapter 311, Tax Code, under a reinvestment zone financing plan approved under Section 311.011(d), Tax Code, on or before September 1, 1999; and

(C)  is eligible for tax increment financing under Chapter 311, Tax Code;

(5)  the total dollar amount of any captured appraised value of property that:

(A)  is within a reinvestment zone:

(i)  created on or before December 31, 2008, by a municipality with a population of less than 18,000; and

(ii)  the project plan for which includes the alteration, remodeling, repair, or reconstruction of a structure that is included on the National Register of Historic Places and requires that a portion of the tax increment of the zone be used for the improvement or construction of related facilities or for affordable housing;

(B)  generates school district taxes that are paid into a tax increment fund created under Chapter 311, Tax Code; and

(C)  is eligible for tax increment financing under Chapter 311, Tax Code;

(6)  the total dollar amount of any exemptions granted under Section 11.251 or 11.253, Tax Code;

(7)  the difference between the comptroller's estimate of the market value and the productivity value of land that qualifies for appraisal on the basis of its productive capacity, except that the productivity value estimated by the comptroller may not exceed the fair market value of the land;

(8)  the portion of the appraised value of residence homesteads of individuals who receive a tax limitation under Section 11.26, Tax Code, on which school district taxes are not imposed in the year that is the subject of the study, calculated as if the residence homesteads were appraised at the full value required by law;

(9)  a portion of the market value of property not otherwise fully taxable by the district at market value because of action required by statute or the constitution of this state, other than Section 11.311, Tax Code, that, if the tax rate adopted by the district is applied to it, produces an amount equal to the difference between the tax that the district would have imposed on the property if the property were fully taxable at market value and the tax that the district is actually authorized to impose on the property, if this subsection does not otherwise require that portion to be deducted;

(10)  the market value of all tangible personal property, other than manufactured homes, owned by a family or individual and not held or used for the production of income;

(11)  the appraised value of property the collection of delinquent taxes on which is deferred under Section 33.06, Tax Code;

(12)  the portion of the appraised value of property the collection of delinquent taxes on which is deferred under Section 33.065, Tax Code;

(13)  the amount by which the market value of a residence homestead to which Section 23.23, Tax Code, applies exceeds the appraised value of that property as calculated under that section; and

(14)  the total dollar amount of any exemptions granted under Section 11.35, Tax Code.

(i)  If the comptroller determines in the study that the market value of property in a school district as determined by the appraisal district that appraises property for the school district, less the total of the amounts and values listed in Subsection (d) as determined by that appraisal district, is valid, the comptroller, in determining the taxable value of property in the school district under Subsection (d), shall for purposes of Subsection (d)(13) subtract from the market value as determined by the appraisal district of residence homesteads to which Section 23.23, Tax Code, applies the amount by which that amount exceeds the appraised value of those properties as calculated by the appraisal district under Section 23.23, Tax Code.  If the comptroller determines in the study that the market value of property in a school district as determined by the appraisal district that appraises property for the school district, less the total of the amounts and values listed in Subsection (d) as determined by that appraisal district, is not valid, the comptroller, in determining the taxable value of property in the school district under Subsection (d), shall for purposes of Subsection (d)(13) subtract from the market value as estimated by the comptroller of residence homesteads to which Section 23.23, Tax Code, applies the amount by which that amount exceeds the appraised value of those properties as calculated by the appraisal district under Section 23.23, Tax Code.

SECTION 4.13.  Section 23.231, Tax Code, as added by this article, applies only to the appraisal of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes for a tax year that begins on or after the effective date of this article.

ARTICLE 5. BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF APPRAISAL DISTRICTS

SECTION 5.01.  The heading to Section 6.03, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.03.  BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN LESS POPULOUS COUNTIES.

SECTION 5.02.  Section 6.03, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a)  This section applies only to an appraisal district established in a county with a population of less than 75,000.

(a-1)  The appraisal district is governed by a board of directors. Five directors are appointed by the taxing units that participate in the district as provided by this section. If the county assessor-collector is not appointed to the board, the county assessor-collector serves as a nonvoting director. The county assessor-collector is ineligible to serve if the board enters into a contract under Section 6.05(b) or if the commissioners court of the county enters into a contract under Section 6.24(b). To be eligible to serve on the board of directors, an individual other than a county assessor-collector serving as a nonvoting director must be a resident of the district and must have resided in the district for at least two years immediately preceding the date the individual takes office. An individual who is otherwise eligible to serve on the board is not ineligible because of membership on the governing body of a taxing unit. An employee of a taxing unit that participates in the district is not eligible to serve on the board unless the individual is also a member of the governing body or an elected official of a taxing unit that participates in the district.

SECTION 5.03.  Subchapter A, Chapter 6, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 6.0301 to read as follows:

Sec. 6.0301.  BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN POPULOUS COUNTIES. (a)  This section applies only to an appraisal district established in a county with a population of 75,000 or more.

(b)  Sections 6.031, 6.034, and 6.10 do not apply to an appraisal district to which this section applies.

(c)  The appraisal district is governed by a board of nine directors. Five directors are appointed by the taxing units that participate in the district in the manner prescribed by Section 6.03. Three directors are elected by majority vote at the general election for state and county officers by the voters of the county in which the district is established. The county assessor-collector serves as an ex officio director.

(d)  To be eligible to serve on the board of directors, an individual other than the county assessor-collector must be a resident of the district and must have resided in the district for at least two years immediately preceding the date the individual takes office. An individual who is otherwise eligible to serve on the board is not ineligible because of membership on the governing body of a taxing unit. An employee of a taxing unit that participates in the district is not eligible to serve on the board unless the individual is also a member of the governing body or an elected official of a taxing unit that participates in the district.

(e)  Members of the board of directors appointed by the taxing units participating in the district serve staggered four-year terms beginning on January 1 of every other even-numbered year. Elected members of the board of directors serve staggered four-year terms beginning on January 1 of every other odd-numbered year.

(f)  If a vacancy occurs in an appointive position on the board of directors, each taxing unit that is entitled to vote under Section 6.03 may nominate by resolution adopted by its governing body a candidate to fill the vacancy. The taxing unit shall submit the name of its nominee to the chief appraiser within 45 days after notification from the board of directors of the existence of the vacancy, and the chief appraiser shall prepare and deliver to the board of directors within the next five days a list of the nominees. The board of directors shall appoint by majority vote of its members one of the nominees to fill the vacancy.

(g)  If a vacancy occurs in an elective position on the board of directors, the board of directors shall appoint by majority vote of its members a person to fill the vacancy. A person appointed to fill a vacancy in an elective position must have the qualifications required of a director elected at a general election.

SECTION 5.04.  Subchapter A, Chapter 6, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 6.032 to read as follows:

Sec. 6.032.  BALLOT PROCEDURES FOR ELECTED DIRECTORS; FILING FEE OR PETITION. (a) Except as provided by this section, Chapter 144, Election Code, applies to a candidate for an elective position on an appraisal district board of directors.

(b)  An application for a place on the ballot must be filed with the county judge of the county in which the appraisal district is established and be accompanied by a filing fee prescribed by Subsection (c) of this section or a petition in lieu of the filing fee that satisfies the requirements prescribed by Section 141.062, Election Code, and Subsection (d) of this section.

(c)  The filing fee for a place on the ballot is:

(1)  $400 for a county with a population of 200,000 or more; or

(2)  $200 for a county with a population of less than 200,000.

(d)  The minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition authorized by Subsection (b) is the lesser of:

(1)  500; or

(2)  two percent of the total vote received in the county by all the candidates for governor in the most recent gubernatorial general election, unless that number is less than 50, in which case the required number of signatures is the lesser of:

(A)  50; or

(B)  20 percent of that total vote.

(e)  A filing fee received under this section shall be deposited in the county treasury to the credit of the county general fund.

(f)  The secretary of state shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 5.05.  The heading to Section 6.033, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.033.  RECALL OF APPOINTED DIRECTOR.

SECTION 5.06.  Section 6.033(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  The governing body of a taxing unit may call for the recall of an appointed [~~a~~] member of the board of directors of an appraisal district [~~appointed under Section 6.03 of this code~~] for whom the taxing unit cast any of its votes in the appointment of the board. The call must be in the form of a resolution, be filed with the chief appraiser of the appraisal district, and state that the taxing unit is calling for the recall of the member. If a resolution calling for the recall of a board member is filed under this subsection, the chief appraiser, not later than the 10th day after the date of filing, shall deliver a written notice of the filing of the resolution and the date of its filing to the presiding officer of the governing body of each taxing unit entitled to vote in the appointment of board members.

SECTION 5.07.  Section 6.036(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  An individual is not eligible to be a candidate for, to be appointed to, or to serve on the board of directors of an appraisal district if the individual or a business entity in which the individual has a substantial interest is a party to a contract with:

(1)  the appraisal district; or

(2)  a taxing unit that participates in the appraisal district, if the contract relates to the performance of an activity governed by this title.

SECTION 5.08.  Section 6.052(f), Tax Code, as effective January 1, 2024, is amended to read as follows:

(f)  The taxpayer liaison officer is responsible for providing clerical assistance to the applicable appointing authority prescribed by Section 6.41(d) [~~local administrative district judge~~] in the selection of appraisal review board members and for publicizing the availability of positions on the appraisal review board. The officer shall deliver to the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] any applications to serve on the board that are submitted to the officer and shall perform other duties as requested by the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~]. The officer may not influence the process for selecting appraisal review board members.

SECTION 5.09.  Section 6.41, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsections (d), (d-1), (d-2), (d-3), (d-5), (d-9), (d-10), (e), (g), (i), and (j) and adding Subsection (d-2-1) to read as follows:

(d)  Members of the board are appointed by the applicable appointing authority. For an appraisal district to which Section 6.03 applies, the appointing authority is the local administrative district judge under Subchapter D, Chapter 74, Government Code, in the county in which the appraisal district is established. For an appraisal district to which Section 6.0301 applies, the appointing authority is the board of directors of the district. A vacancy on the board is filled in the same manner for the unexpired portion of the term.

(d-1)  All applications submitted to the appraisal district or to the appraisal review board from persons seeking appointment as a member of the appraisal review board shall be delivered to the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~]. The appraisal district may provide the appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] with information regarding whether an applicant for appointment to or a member of the board owes any delinquent ad valorem taxes to a taxing unit participating in the appraisal district.

(d-2)  A local administrative district judge acting as an appointing authority may make appointments to the board directly or may, by written order, appoint from three to five persons to perform the duties of appraisal review board commissioner. If the local administrative district judge chooses to appoint appraisal review board commissioners, each commissioner shall possess the same qualifications as those required of an appraisal review board member.

(d-2-1)  A board of directors acting as an appointing authority must make appointments to the appraisal review board by majority vote, with at least two members of the majority being elected members of the board of directors.

(d-3)  The applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative judge~~] shall cause the proper officer to notify appointees to the board of their appointment, and when and where they are to appear.

(d-5)  The appraisal district of the county shall provide to the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~], or to the appraisal review board commissioners, as the case may be, the number of appraisal review board positions that require appointment and shall provide whatever reasonable assistance is requested by the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] or the commissioners.

(d-9)  In selecting individuals who are to serve as members of the appraisal review board for an appraisal district described by Subsection (b-2), the board of directors of the district [~~local administrative district judge~~] shall select an adequate number of qualified individuals to permit the chairman of the appraisal review board to fill the positions on each special panel established under Section 6.425.

(d-10)  Upon selection of the individuals who are to serve as members of the appraisal review board, the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] shall enter an appropriate order designating such members and setting each member's respective term of office, as provided elsewhere in this section.

(e)  Members of the board hold office for terms of two years beginning January 1.  The appraisal district board of directors by resolution shall provide for staggered terms, so that the terms of as close to one-half of the members as possible expire each year.  In making the initial or subsequent appointments, the applicable appointing authority, or the local administrative district [~~judge or the~~] judge's designee if the appointing authority is the judge, shall designate those members who serve terms of one year as needed to comply with this subsection.

(g)  Subsection (a) does not preclude the boards of directors of two or more adjoining appraisal districts from providing for the operation of a consolidated appraisal review board by interlocal contract.  Members of a consolidated appraisal review board are appointed jointly by the applicable appointing authorities [~~local administrative district judges~~] in the counties in which the appraisal districts that are parties to the contract are established.

(i)  A chief appraiser or another employee or agent of the appraisal district, a member of the appraisal review board for the appraisal district, a member of the board of directors of the appraisal district if the board is established for a district to which Section 6.03 applies, a property tax consultant, or an agent of a property owner commits an offense if the person communicates with the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] regarding the appointment of appraisal review board members.  This subsection does not apply to:

(1)  a communication between a member of the appraisal review board and the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] regarding the member's reappointment to the board;

(2)  a communication between the taxpayer liaison officer for the appraisal district and the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] in the course of the performance of the officer's clerical duties so long as the officer does not offer an opinion or comment regarding the appointment of appraisal review board members;

(3)  a communication between a chief appraiser or another employee or agent of the appraisal district, a member of the appraisal review board for the appraisal district, or a member of the board of directors of the appraisal district if the board is established for a district to which Section 6.03 applies and the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] regarding information relating to or described by Subsection (d-1), (d-5), or (f) of this section or Section 411.1296, Government Code;

(4)  a communication between a property tax consultant or a property owner or an agent of the property owner and the taxpayer liaison officer for the appraisal district regarding information relating to or described by Subsection (f). The taxpayer liaison officer for the appraisal district shall report the contents of the communication relating to or described by Subsection (f) to the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~]; or

(5)  a communication between a property tax consultant or a property owner or an agent of the property owner and the applicable appointing authority [~~local administrative district judge~~] regarding information relating to or described by Subsection (f).

(j)  A chief appraiser or another employee or agent of an appraisal district commits an offense if the person communicates with a member of the appraisal review board for the appraisal district, a member of the board of directors of the appraisal district, or the local administrative district judge, if the judge is the appointing authority for the district, regarding a ranking, scoring, or reporting of the percentage by which the appraisal review board or a panel of the board reduces the appraised value of property.

SECTION 5.10.  Section 6.41(f), Tax Code, as amended by Chapters 354 (H.B. 2941) and 533 (S.B. 63), Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, is reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(f)  A member of the appraisal review board may be removed from the board by the applicable appointing authority, or the local administrative district [~~judge or the~~] judge's designee if the appointing authority is the judge. Not later than the 90th day after the date the board of directors, local administrative district judge, or judge's designee that appointed a member of the appraisal review board learns of a potential ground for removal of the member, the board of directors, local administrative district judge, or judge's designee, as applicable, shall remove the member or find by official action that the member's removal is not warranted. Grounds for removal are:

(1)  a violation of Section 6.412, 6.413, 41.66(f), or 41.69;

(2)  good cause relating to the attendance of members at called meetings of the board as established by written policy adopted by a majority of the appraisal district board of directors; or

(3)  evidence of repeated bias or misconduct.

SECTION 5.11.  Section 6.42(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A majority of the appraisal review board constitutes a quorum. The applicable appointing authority prescribed by Section 6.41(d) [~~local administrative district judge under Subchapter D, Chapter 74, Government Code,~~] in the county in which the appraisal district is established shall select a chairman and a secretary from among the members of the appraisal review board. The applicable appointing authority [~~judge~~] is encouraged to select as chairman a member of the appraisal review board, if any, who has a background in law and property appraisal.

SECTION 5.12.  Section 6.425(e), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e)  Notwithstanding Subsection (d), the chairman of the appraisal review board may appoint to a special panel described by this section a member of the appraisal review board who does not meet the qualifications prescribed by that subsection if:

(1)  the number of persons appointed to the board [~~by the local administrative district judge~~] who meet those qualifications is not sufficient to fill the positions on each special panel; and

(2)  the board member being appointed to the panel holds a bachelor's degree in any field.

SECTION 5.13.  (a)  Appraisal district directors shall be elected to the elective positions as provided by Section 6.0301, Tax Code, as added by this article, beginning with the election conducted on the uniform election date in May 2024. The directors then elected take office on July 1, 2024, and serve a term that expires on December 31, 2026.

(b)  Following the election of the initial elected directors of an appraisal district as provided by Subsection (a) of this section, directors shall be elected as provided by Section 6.0301, Tax Code, as added by this article, beginning with the general election conducted in November 2026. Directors then elected take office January 1, 2027.

(c)  At the first meeting of the board of directors of an appraisal district described by Section 6.0301, Tax Code, as added by this article, that follows the November 2026 general election of directors under that section, the three elected directors shall draw lots to determine which director shall serve a term of two years and which two directors shall serve a term of four years. Thereafter, all elected directors serve four-year terms.

(d)  The term of an appraisal district director serving on December 31, 2024, on the board of directors of an appraisal district described by Section 6.0301, Tax Code, as added by this article, expires on January 1, 2025. Not later than December 31, 2024, the taxing units participating in the appraisal district that are entitled to appoint directors shall appoint five directors to serve terms that begin on January 1, 2025. Two directors shall be appointed to serve a term of one year, and three directors shall be appointed to serve a term of three years. Thereafter, all appointed directors serve four-year terms.

ARTICLE 6. TRANSITIONAL TAX YEAR PROVISIONS

SECTION 6.01.  Section 25.23, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  This subsection applies only to the appraisal records for the 2023 tax year. The chief appraiser shall prepare supplemental appraisal records to account for the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.02.  Section 26.04, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (c-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  On receipt of the appraisal roll for the 2023 tax year, the assessor for a taxing unit shall determine the total taxable value of property taxable by the taxing unit and the taxable value of new property as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

(c-1)  An officer or employee designated by the governing body of a taxing unit shall calculate the no-new-revenue tax rate and the voter-approval tax rate of the taxing unit for the 2023 tax year as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.03.  Chapter 26, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 26.0401 to read as follows:

Sec. 26.0401.  CALCULATION OF CERTAIN TAX RATES FOR 2023 TAX YEAR. (a)  For the purposes of calculating the no-new-revenue tax rate, the voter-approval tax rate, and any related tax rate for the 2023 tax year, a taxing unit that calculates those rates under a provision of law other than Section 26.04 or 26.08 shall calculate those rates as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year.

(b)  This section expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.04.  Section 26.08, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (q) to read as follows:

(q)  For purposes of this section, the voter-approval tax rate of a school district for the 2023 tax year shall be calculated as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.05.  Section 26.09, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c-1)  The assessor for a taxing unit shall calculate the amount of tax imposed by the taxing unit on property for the 2023 tax year as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year and also as if the changes in law made by that Act were not in effect for that tax year. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.06.  Section 26.15, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h)  The assessor for a taxing unit shall correct the tax roll for the taxing unit for the 2023 tax year to reflect the results of the election to approve the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.07.  Section 31.01, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d-2), (d-3), (d-4), and (d-5) to read as follows:

(d-2)  This subsection and Subsections (d-3) and (d-4) apply only to taxes imposed by a taxing unit on property for the 2023 tax year and only if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, would lower the taxes imposed by the taxing unit on the property for that tax year. The assessor for the taxing unit shall compute the amount of taxes imposed and the other information required by this section as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year. The tax bill or the separate statement must indicate that the bill is a provisional tax bill and include a statement in substantially the following form:

"If the Texas Legislature had not enacted property tax relief legislation during the 2023 legislative session, your tax bill would have been $\_\_\_\_ (insert amount of tax bill if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were not in effect for that tax year). Because of action by the Texas Legislature, your tax bill has been lowered by $\_\_\_\_ (insert difference between amount of tax bill if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were not in effect for that tax year and amount of tax bill if that Act were in effect for that tax year), resulting in a lower tax bill of $\_\_\_\_ (insert amount of tax bill if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were in effect for that tax year), contingent on the approval by the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023, of the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023. If that constitutional amendment is not approved by the voters at the election, a supplemental tax bill in the amount of $\_\_\_\_ (insert difference between amount of tax bill if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were not in effect for that tax year and amount of tax bill if that Act were in effect for that tax year) will be mailed to you."

(d-3)  A tax bill prepared by the assessor for a taxing unit as provided by Subsection (d-2) and mailed as provided by Subsection (a) is considered to be a provisional tax bill until the canvass of the votes on the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023. If the constitutional amendment is approved by the voters, the tax bill is considered to be a final tax bill for the taxes imposed on the property for the 2023 tax year, and no additional tax bill is required to be mailed unless another provision of this title requires the mailing of a corrected tax bill. If the constitutional amendment is not approved by the voters:

(1)  a tax bill prepared by the assessor as provided by Subsection (d-2) is considered to be a final tax bill but only as to the portion of the taxes imposed on the property for the 2023 tax year that are included in the bill;

(2)  the amount of taxes imposed by each taxing unit on property for the 2023 tax year is calculated as if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were not in effect for that tax year; and

(3)  except as provided by Subsections (f), (i-1), and (k), the assessor for each taxing unit shall prepare and mail a supplemental tax bill, by December 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable, in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of the tax bill if the changes in law made by S.B. 2, Acts of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, were not in effect for that tax year and the amount of the tax bill if that Act were in effect for that tax year.

(d-4)  Except as otherwise provided by Subsection (d-3), the provisions of this section other than Subsection (d-2) apply to a supplemental tax bill mailed under Subsection (d-3).

(d-5)  This subsection and Subsections (d-2), (d-3), and (d-4) expire December 31, 2024.

SECTION 6.08.  Section 31.02, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section and Sections 31.03 and 31.04, taxes for which a supplemental tax bill is mailed under Section 31.01(d-3) are due on receipt of the tax bill and are delinquent if not paid before March 1 of the year following the year in which imposed. This subsection expires December 31, 2024.

ARTICLE 7. CONTINGENT ON PASSAGE OF FRANCHISE TAX REFORM LEGISLATION

SECTION 7.01.  This Act takes effect only if S.B. 3 or similar legislation of the 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, relating to the amount of the total revenue exemption for the franchise tax and the exclusion of certain taxable entities from the requirement to file a franchise tax report becomes law in a manner described by Section 2001.006(a)(2), Government Code. If legislation described by this section does not become law in a manner described by Section 2001.006(a)(2), Government Code, this Act has no effect.

ARTICLE 8. EFFECTIVE DATES

SECTION 8.01.  Except as provided by Article 7 of this Act, this Act takes effect as provided by this article.

SECTION 8.02.  Except as otherwise provided by this article, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

SECTION 8.03.  Article 2 of this Act takes effect on the date on which the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, Article 2 of this Act has no effect.

SECTION 8.04.  (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section or as otherwise provided by Article 3 of this Act:

(1)  Article 3 of this Act takes effect on the date on which the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, takes effect; and

(2)  if that amendment is not approved by the voters, Article 3 of this Act has no effect.

(b)  Sections 49.004(a-1), (b-1), and (c-1), 49.0042, 49.0121, 49.154(a-2) and (a-3), and 49.308(a-1), Education Code, as added by Article 3 of this Act, take effect immediately if this Act receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for those sections to have immediate effect, those sections take effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

SECTION 8.05.  Article 4 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2024, but only if the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, Article 4 of this Act has no effect.

SECTION 8.06.  (a) Article 5 of this Act takes effect as provided by Subsections (b) and (c) of this section, but only if the constitutional amendment proposed by H.J.R. 2, 88th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 2023, is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, Article 5 of this Act has no effect.

(b)  Except as provided by Subsection (c) of this section, Article 5 of this Act takes effect July 1, 2024.

(c)  Sections 5.04 and 5.13 of this Act take effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.

SECTION 8.07.  Article 6 of this Act takes effect immediately if this Act receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for that article to have immediate effect, Article 6 of this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.