By:  Huffman, et al. S.B. No. 2289

(Bonnen)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter B, Chapter 11, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 11.36 to read as follows:

Sec. 11.36.  MEDICAL OR BIOMEDICAL PROPERTY. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Medical or biomedical property" means tangible personal property that is:

(A)  stored, used, or consumed in the manufacturing or processing of medical or biomedical products by a medical or biomedical manufacturer; or

(B)  intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of a condition or disease or in medical or biomedical research, including the invention, development, and dissemination of materials, tools, technologies, processes, and similar means for translating and applying medical and scientific research for practical applications to advance public health, including:

(i)  devices;

(ii)  therapeutics;

(iii)  pharmaceuticals;

(iv)  personal protective equipment;

(v)  tools, apparatuses, instruments, implants, or other similar or related component parts or accessories;

(vi)  property exempted under Section 151.318 from the taxes imposed by Chapter 151; and

(vii)  manufacturing inventories, including finished goods.

(2)  "Medical or biomedical manufacturing facility" means a facility at which a person conducts manufacturing or processing of medical or biomedical products for the purpose of development and commercialization of products to advance public health.

(b)  A person is entitled to an exemption from taxation of medical or biomedical property the person owns or leases that is located in a medical or biomedical manufacturing facility that the person owns or leases.

(c)  Notwithstanding Section 11.14(c), the governing body of a taxing unit may not provide for taxation of medical or biomedical property exempted under this section.

SECTION 2.  Section 11.42(d), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  A person who acquires property after January 1 of a tax year may receive an exemption authorized by Section 11.17, 11.18, 11.19, 11.20, 11.21, 11.23, 11.231, [~~or~~] 11.30, or 11.36 for the applicable portion of that tax year immediately on qualification for the exemption.

SECTION 3.  Section 11.43(c), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c)  An exemption provided by Section 11.13, 11.131, 11.132, 11.133, 11.134, 11.17, 11.18, 11.182, 11.1827, 11.183, 11.19, 11.20, 11.21, 11.22, 11.23(a), (h), (j), (j-1), or (m), 11.231, 11.254, 11.27, 11.271, 11.29, 11.30, 11.31, 11.315, [~~or~~] 11.35, or 11.36, once allowed, need not be claimed in subsequent years, and except as otherwise provided by Subsection (e), the exemption applies to the property until it changes ownership or the person's qualification for the exemption changes.  However, except as provided by Subsection (r), the chief appraiser may require a person allowed one of the exemptions in a prior year to file a new application to confirm the person's current qualification for the exemption by delivering a written notice that a new application is required, accompanied by an appropriate application form, to the person previously allowed the exemption. If the person previously allowed the exemption is 65 years of age or older, the chief appraiser may not cancel the exemption due to the person's failure to file the new application unless the chief appraiser complies with the requirements of Subsection (q), if applicable.

SECTION 4.  This Act applies only to a tax year that begins on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect January 1, 2024, but only if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.