

By: Metcalf, Toth, et al.

H.B. No. 1228

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the right of a property owner or the owner's agent to receive on request a copy of the information used to appraise the owner's property for ad valorem tax purposes.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25.195, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (c-1) and amending Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

(a-1) On request by a property owner or the designated agent of an owner, a chief appraiser shall provide electronically or by mail at the address designated by the property owner or agent a copy of the records, supporting data, schedules, and other material and information the owner or agent is entitled to inspect and copy under Subsection (a). A chief appraiser may not impose a fee for providing a copy of records, supporting data, schedules, or other material or information under this subsection.

(c-1) On request by a property owner or the designated agent of an owner, a private appraisal firm shall provide electronically or by mail at the address designated by the property owner or agent a copy of the information the owner or agent is entitled to inspect and copy under Subsection (c). A private appraisal firm may not impose a fee for providing a copy of information under this subsection.

(d) The appraisal firm shall make information covered by

1 Subsection (c) available for inspection and copying by the owner or
2 agent or provide the information as required by Subsection (c-1),
3 as applicable, not later than the 15th day after the date the owner
4 or agent delivers a written request to inspect or receive a copy of
5 the information, unless the owner or agent agrees in writing to a
6 later date.

7 (e) If an owner or agent states under oath in a document
8 filed with an appraisal review board in connection with a
9 proceeding initiated under Section 25.25 or Chapter 41 that the
10 applicable appraisal firm has not complied with a request for
11 inspection or copying under Subsection (c) or a request to receive a
12 copy of information under Subsection (c-1) related to the property
13 that is the subject of the proceeding, the board may not conduct a
14 hearing on the merits of any claim relating to that property and may
15 not approve the appraisal records relating to that property until
16 the board determines in a hearing that:

17 (1) the appraisal firm has made the information
18 available for inspection and copying as required by Subsection (c)
19 or has provided the information as required by Subsection (c-1), as
20 applicable; or

21 (2) the owner or agent has withdrawn the motion or
22 protest that initiated the proceeding.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2024.