

By: Bettencourt, et al.

S.B. No. 3

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to an increase in the amount of the exemption of residence  
3 homesteads from ad valorem taxation by a school district, an  
4 adjustment in the amount of the limitation on school district ad  
5 valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or  
6 disabled to reflect increases in the exemption amount, and the  
7 protection of school districts against the resulting loss in local  
8 revenue.

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

10 SECTION 1. Section 11.13(b), Tax Code, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (b) An adult is entitled to exemption from taxation by a  
13 school district of \$70,000 [~~\$40,000~~] of the appraised value of the  
14 adult's residence homestead, except that only \$5,000 of the  
15 exemption applies to an entity operating under former Chapter 17,  
16 18, 25, 26, 27, or 28, Education Code, as those chapters existed on  
17 May 1, 1995, as permitted by Section 11.301, Education Code.

18 SECTION 2. Section 11.26, Tax Code, is amended by amending  
19 Subsections (a), (a-10), and (o) and adding Subsection (a-11) to  
20 read as follows:

21 (a) The tax officials shall appraise the property to which  
22 this section applies and calculate taxes as on other property, but  
23 if the tax so calculated exceeds the limitation imposed by this  
24 section, the tax imposed is the amount of the tax as limited by this

1 section, except as otherwise provided by this section. A school  
2 district may not increase the total annual amount of ad valorem tax  
3 it imposes on the residence homestead of an individual 65 years of  
4 age or older or on the residence homestead of an individual who is  
5 disabled, as defined by Section 11.13, above the amount of the tax  
6 it imposed in the first tax year in which the individual qualified  
7 that residence homestead for the applicable exemption provided by  
8 Section 11.13(c) for an individual who is 65 years of age or older  
9 or is disabled. If the individual qualified that residence  
10 homestead for the exemption after the beginning of that first year  
11 and the residence homestead remains eligible for the same exemption  
12 for the next year, and if the school district taxes imposed on the  
13 residence homestead in the next year are less than the amount of  
14 taxes imposed in that first year, a school district may not  
15 subsequently increase the total annual amount of ad valorem taxes  
16 it imposes on the residence homestead above the amount it imposed in  
17 the year immediately following the first year for which the  
18 individual qualified that residence homestead for the same  
19 exemption, except as provided by Subsection (b). ~~[If the first tax  
20 year the individual qualified the residence homestead for the  
21 exemption provided by Section 11.13(c) for individuals 65 years of  
22 age or older or disabled was a tax year before the 2015 tax year, the  
23 amount of the limitation provided by this section is the amount of  
24 tax the school district imposed for the 2014 tax year less an amount  
25 equal to the amount determined by multiplying \$10,000 times the tax  
26 rate of the school district for the 2015 tax year, plus any 2015 tax  
27 attributable to improvements made in 2014, other than improvements~~

1 ~~made to comply with governmental regulations or repairs.]~~

2 (a-10) For purposes of this section, "maximum compressed  
3 rate" means the maximum compressed rate of a school district as  
4 calculated under Section 48.2551, Education Code. Notwithstanding  
5 the other provisions of this section, if in the 2024 or a subsequent  
6 tax year an individual qualifies for a limitation on tax increases  
7 provided by this section on the individual's residence homestead,  
8 the amount of the limitation provided by this section on the  
9 homestead is equal to the amount computed by:

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

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

18 (3) adding any tax imposed in the current tax year  
19 attributable to improvements made in the preceding tax year as  
20 provided by Subsection (b) to the amount computed under Subdivision  
21 (2);

22 (4) multiplying the amount of any increase in the  
23 current tax year as compared to the preceding tax year in the amount  
24 of the exemption to which the individual is entitled under Section  
25 11.13(b) by the school district's tax rate for the current tax year;  
26 and

27 (5) subtracting the amount computed under Subdivision

1 (4) from the amount computed under Subdivision (3).

2 (a-11) This subsection applies only to an individual who in  
3 the 2024 tax year qualifies for a limitation under this section and  
4 for whom the 2021 tax year or an earlier tax year was the first tax  
5 year the individual or the individual's spouse qualified for an  
6 exemption under Section 11.13(c). The amount of the limitation  
7 provided by this section on the residence homestead of an  
8 individual to which this subsection applies for the 2024 tax year is  
9 the amount of the limitation as computed under Subsection (a-10) of  
10 this section less an amount equal to the product of \$15,000 and the  
11 tax rate of the school district for the 2022 tax year. This  
12 subsection expires January 1, 2025.

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

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

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

1 replaced structure.

2 SECTION 3. Section 46.071, Education Code, is amended by  
3 amending Subsections (a-1) and (b-1) and adding Subsections (a-2),  
4 (b-2), and (c-2) to read as follows:

5 (a-1) For ~~[Beginning with]~~ the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024  
6 school years ~~[year]~~, a school district is entitled to additional  
7 state aid under this subchapter to the extent that state and local  
8 revenue used to service debt eligible under this chapter is less  
9 than the state and local revenue that would have been available to  
10 the district under this chapter as it existed on September 1, 2021,  
11 if any increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section  
12 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, as proposed by the 87th  
13 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2021, had not occurred.

14 (a-2) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a school  
15 district is entitled to additional state aid under this subchapter  
16 to the extent that state and local revenue used to service debt  
17 eligible under this chapter is less than the state and local revenue  
18 that would have been available to the district under this chapter as  
19 it existed on September 1, 2023, if any increase in the residence  
20 homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas  
21 Constitution, and any additional limitation on tax increases under  
22 Section 1-b(d) of that article as proposed by the 88th Legislature,  
23 Regular Session, 2023, had not occurred.

24 (b-1) Subject to Subsections (c-1), (d), and (e),  
25 additional state aid under this section for ~~[beginning with]~~ the  
26 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years ~~[year]~~ is equal to the amount  
27 by which the loss of local interest and sinking revenue for debt

1 service attributable to any increase in the residence homestead  
2 exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution,  
3 as proposed by the 87th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2021, is  
4 not offset by a gain in state aid under this chapter.

5 (b-2) Subject to Subsections (c-2), (d), and (e),  
6 additional state aid under this section beginning with the  
7 2024-2025 school year is equal to the amount by which the loss of  
8 local interest and sinking revenue for debt service attributable to  
9 any increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section  
10 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, and any additional  
11 limitation on tax increases under Section 1-b(d) of that article as  
12 proposed by the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, is not  
13 offset by a gain in state aid under this chapter.

14 (c-2) For the purpose of determining state aid under  
15 Subsections (a-2) and (b-2), local interest and sinking revenue for  
16 debt service is limited to revenue required to service debt  
17 eligible under this chapter as of September 1, 2024, including  
18 refunding of that debt, subject to Section 46.061. The limitation  
19 imposed by Section 46.034(a) does not apply for the purpose of  
20 determining state aid under this section.

21 SECTION 4. Section 48.2542, Education Code, is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 Sec. 48.2542. ADDITIONAL STATE AID FOR ADJUSTMENT OF  
24 LIMITATION ON TAX INCREASES ON HOMESTEAD OF ELDERLY OR DISABLED.  
25 Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if a school  
26 district is not fully compensated through state aid or the  
27 calculation of excess local revenue under this chapter based on the

1 determination of the district's taxable value of property under  
2 Subchapter M, Chapter 403, Government Code, the district is  
3 entitled to additional state aid in the amount necessary to fully  
4 compensate the district for the amount of ad valorem tax revenue  
5 lost due to a reduction of the amount of the limitation on tax  
6 increases provided by Sections 11.26(a-10) and (a-11) [~~11.26(a-4),~~  
7 ~~(a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10)~~], Tax Code, as  
8 applicable.

9 SECTION 5. Effective January 1, 2025, Section 48.2542,  
10 Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

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

24 SECTION 6. Section 48.2543, Education Code, is amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 Sec. 48.2543. ADDITIONAL STATE AID FOR HOMESTEAD  
27 EXEMPTION. (a) For [~~Beginning with~~] the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

1 school years [~~year~~], a school district is entitled to additional  
2 state aid to the extent that state and local revenue under this  
3 chapter and Chapter 49 is less than the state and local revenue that  
4 would have been available to the district under this chapter and  
5 Chapter 49 as those chapters existed on September 1, 2021, if any  
6 increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c),  
7 Article VIII, Texas Constitution, as proposed by the 87th  
8 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, 2021, had not occurred.

9 (a-1) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a school  
10 district is entitled to additional state aid to the extent that  
11 state and local revenue under this chapter and Chapter 49 is less  
12 than the state and local revenue that would have been available to  
13 the district under this chapter and Chapter 49 as those chapters  
14 existed on September 1, 2023, if any increase in the residence  
15 homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas  
16 Constitution, and any additional limitation on tax increases under  
17 Section 1-b(d) of that article as proposed by the 88th Legislature,  
18 Regular Session, 2023, had not occurred.

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

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

24 (2) the 2023 tax year is used for the purpose of  
25 determining additional state aid under Subsection (a-1).

26 SECTION 7. Section 48.2556(a), Education Code, is amended  
27 to read as follows:



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

9           [~~(1)~~] each school district's maximum compressed rate,  
10 as determined under Section 48.2551, for each tax year beginning  
11 with the 2022 [~~2019~~] tax year[~~, and~~

12           [~~(2)~~] ~~each school district's tier one maintenance and~~  
13 ~~operations tax rate, as provided by Section 45.0032(a), for the~~  
14 ~~2018 tax year].~~

15           SECTION 8. Effective January 1, 2025, Section 48.2556(a),  
16 Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

17           (a) For purposes of allowing the chief appraiser of each  
18 appraisal district and the assessor for each school district to  
19 make the calculations required by Section 11.26(a-10), Tax Code,  
20 the [The] agency shall post [the following information] on the  
21 agency's Internet website [~~for purposes of allowing the chief~~  
22 ~~appraiser of each appraisal district and the assessor for each~~  
23 ~~school district to make the calculations required by Sections~~  
24 ~~11.26(a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), and (a-10), Tax Code:~~

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

1           ~~[(2) each school district's tier one maintenance and~~  
2 ~~operations tax rate, as provided by Section 45.0032(a), for the~~  
3 ~~2018 tax year].~~

4           SECTION 9. Section 403.302, Government Code, is amended by  
5 amending Subsection (j-1) and adding Subsection (j-2) to read as  
6 follows:

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

13           (j-2) In the final certification of the study under  
14 Subsection (j), the comptroller shall separately identify the final  
15 taxable value for each school district as adjusted to account for  
16 the reduction of the amount of the limitation on tax increases  
17 provided by Section 11.26(a-11), Tax Code. This subsection expires  
18 January 1, 2025.

19           SECTION 10. Sections 11.26(a-1), (a-2), (a-3), (a-4),  
20 (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), and (a-9), Tax Code, are repealed.

21           SECTION 11. The changes in law made by this Act to Sections  
22 11.13 and 11.26, Tax Code, apply only to an ad valorem tax year that  
23 begins on or after January 1, 2024.

24           SECTION 12. Except as otherwise provided by this Act, this  
25 Act takes effect January 1, 2024, but only if the constitutional  
26 amendment proposed by the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023,  
27 to increase the amount of the exemption of residence homesteads

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1 from ad valorem taxation by a school district and to adjust the  
2 amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes  
3 imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to  
4 reflect increases in the exemption amount is approved by the  
5 voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act  
6 has no effect.