

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3307
By: Noble
Ways & Means
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Current law authorizes property owners to appeal appraisal review board decisions through binding arbitration and sets out qualifications for individuals to initially serve as arbitrators in such appeals. Under current law, arbitrators must additionally complete continuing education in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution procedures to remain qualified to serve in that role. C.S.H.B. 3307 expands the options for fulfilling this continuing education requirement by allowing for qualifying continuing education that has been approved for continuing legal education to count towards that continuing education requirement.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3307 amends the Tax Code to authorize, for the purpose of renewing a person's agreement with the comptroller of public accounts to serve as an arbitrator in an appeal through binding arbitration of an appraisal review board's order determining a taxpayer protest, the person to complete at least eight hours of continuing education during the preceding two years in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution procedures that is approved for continuing legal education as an alternative to completing that continuing education requirement through education that is offered by a university, college, real estate trade association, or legal association.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2026.

COMPARISON OF INTRODUCED AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 3307 may differ from the introduced in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

Both the substitute and the introduced provide an alternative means through which a person renewing their agreement to serve as an arbitrator may complete the continuing education requirement in current law. However, the alternative provided by the introduced authorized the

person to fulfill the requirement through qualifying continuing education included in a continuing legal education course approved by the State Bar of Texas or the Texas Supreme Court, whereas the alternative provided by the substitute authorizes the person to fulfill the requirement through qualifying continuing education approved for continuing legal education.

The substitute changes the bill's effective date from September 1, 2025, as in the introduced, to September 1, 2026.