

- SUBJECT:** Making medical examiner addresses confidential on property-tax rolls
- COMMITTEE:** Government Efficiency and Reform — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 7 ayes — Harper-Brown, Perry, Capriglione, Stephenson, Taylor, Scott Turner, Vo
- WITNESSES:** For — None
- Against — None
- On — Lynn Garcia, Texas Forensic Science Commission
- BACKGROUND:** Tax Code, sec. 25.025 makes the information of certain law enforcement professionals and others in property-tax appraisal records confidential if it identifies the home address of a named individual and the individual chooses to restrict public access to the information. The information is available only for the official use of an appraisal district, the state, the comptroller, and taxing units and subdivisions.
- The covered groups are:
- current or former peace officers;
 - a county jailer;
 - a TDCJ employee;
 - a commissioned security officer;
 - a victim of family violence, if as a result of the act against the victim, the perpetrator is convicted of a felony or a class A misdemeanor;
 - a federal judge, a state judge, or a spouse;
 - a current or former employee of a district attorney, criminal district attorney, or county or municipal attorney whose jurisdiction includes any criminal law or child protective services matters;
 - an officer or employee of a community supervision and corrections department;
 - a criminal investigator of the United States;
 - a police officer or inspector of the United States Federal Protective Service;

- a current or former U.S. attorney or assistant U.S. attorney and the spouse and child of the attorney; and
- a current or former employee of the attorney general who is or was assigned to a division of the office that involved law enforcement.

DIGEST:

HB 2267 would add to the list of groups whose identifying information in property-tax rolls was confidential medical examiners and persons who performed forensic analysis or testing who were employed by the state or a political subdivision.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2013.