

SUBJECT: Requiring TDLR to provide information on certain property tax appraisers

COMMITTEE: Ways and Means — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 11 ayes — Meyer, Thierry, Button, Cole, Guerra, Martinez Fischer,
Murphy, Noble, Rodriguez, Sanford, Shine

0 nays

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 19 — 31-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: James LeBas, Texas Apartment
Association and TXOGA; Jason Cunningham, Texas Association of
Appraisal Districts)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Korry Castillo, Comptroller of
Public Accounts; Steve Bruno, Texas Department of Licensing and
Regulation)

BACKGROUND: It has been noted that currently there is no uniform way for a local
appraisal district that is seeking to hire a chief appraiser to inquire about
the previous performance of a candidate for the position. Some have
suggested that the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation be
required to provide information to an inquiring appraisal district regarding
the past performance of a candidate being considered for the job of chief
appraiser, including whether the appraiser had received a notation of
noncompliance.

DIGEST: CSSB 916 would require the Texas Commission of Licensing and
Regulation by rule to require the Texas Department of Licensing and
Regulation (TDLR) to include in the record of the registered professional
appraiser who served as chief appraiser for an appraisal district at the time
the comptroller finalized the biennial review of the appraisal district's
performance an electronic link to:

- the comptroller's report for the review; and
- each school property value study the comptroller conducted that was used in the review.

The bill would authorize an appraisal district to request from TDLR information on a registered professional appraiser whom the board of directors of the appraisal district was considering for appointment as chief appraiser of the appraisal district. TDLR would have to inform the requestor of the status of any compliance efforts of an appraisal district for previous reviews in which the appraiser served as chief appraiser of that appraisal district.

The commission, as soon as practicable after the effective date of the bill, would be required to adopt rules to implement the bill's provisions.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2021.