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CHAPTER 1035

H.B. No. 2792

AN ACT
relating to the circumstances under which an appraisal review board hearing shall be closed to the public.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 41.66, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (d-i) and (d-2) to read as follows:

(d) Except as provided by Subsection (d-1), hearings conducted as provided by this chapter are open to the public.

(d-i) Notwithstanding Chapter 551, Government Code, the appraisal review board shall conduct a hearing that is closed to the public if the property owner or the chief appraiser intends to disclose proprietary or confidential information at the hearing that will assist the review board in determining the protest. The review board may hold a closed hearing under this subsection only on a joint motion by the property owner and the chief appraiser.

(d-2) Information described by Subsection (d-1) is considered information obtained under Section 22.27.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on May 9, 2013: Yeas 131, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 21, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective June 14, 2013.

CHAPTER 1036

H.B. No. 2825

AN ACT
relating to the authority of a county to establish a centralized sex offender registration authority.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article 62.0045, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 62.0045. CENTRALIZED REGISTRATION AUTHORITY. (a) The commissioners court of [in] a county [with a population of 100,000 or more] may designate the office of the sheriff of the county or may, through interlocal agreement, designate the office of a chief of police of a municipality in that county to serve as a mandatory countywide registration location for persons subject to this chapter.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person [who is] subject to this chapter is required to perform the registration and verification requirements of Articles [shall register under Article] 62.051 and [or verify registration under Article] 62.058 and the change of address requirements of Article 62.055 only with respect to the centralized registration authority for the county, regardless of whether the person resides in any municipality located in that county. If the person resides in a municipality, and the local law enforcement authority in the municipality does not serve as the person’s registered centralization authority, the centralization registration authority, not later than the third day after the date the person registers or verifies registration or changes address with that authority, shall provide to the local law enforcement authority in that municipality notice of the person’s registration, [or] verification of registration, or change of address, as applicable, with the centralized registration authority.
(c) This section does not affect a person's duty to register with secondary sex offender registries under this chapter, such as those described by Articles 62.059 and 62.153.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2825 on May 24, 2013: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 14, 2013.
Effective June 14, 2013.

CHAPTER 1037

H.B. No. 2840

AN ACT
relating to the urban land bank demonstration program in certain municipalities.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 379C.005, Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 379C.005. QUALIFIED PARTICIPATING DEVELOPER. To qualify to participate in an urban land bank demonstration program, a developer must:

(1) have built three or more housing units within the three-year period preceding the submission of a proposal to the land bank seeking to acquire real property from the land bank;

(2) have a development plan approved by the municipality for the land bank property; and

(3) meet any other requirements adopted by the municipality in the urban land bank demonstration plan.

SECTION 2. Section 379C.009, Local Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-i), the land bank must sell a property to a qualified participating developer within the four-year period following the date of acquisition for the purpose of construction of affordable housing for sale or rent to low income households.

(b-i) Before the completion of the four-year period described by Subsection (b), the land bank may, subject to Section 379C.0106:

(1) transfer property that the land bank determines is not appropriate for residential development to the taxing units described by Subsection (b); or

(2) sell property described by Subdivision (1) to a political subdivision or a nonprofit organization.

(b-2) If after four years a qualified participating developer has not purchased the property, the property shall be transferred from the land bank to the taxing units who were parties to the judgment for disposition as otherwise allowed under the law.

SECTION 3. Section 379C.0106(a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In this section, “eligible adjacent property owner” means a person who:

(1) owns property located adjacent to property owned by the land bank; and

(2) has owned the adjacent property and continuously occupied that property as a primary residence for the two-year period preceding the date of the sale; and