

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R3205 JD-F

H.B. 1604
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Finance
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Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, tax-exempt charitable organizations can purchase property for less than the minimum bid, under certain conditions. Additionally, a nonprofit organization that develops and rebuilds affordable housing has special property purchasing privileges. H.B. 1604 extends the property purchasing privilege to certain tax-exempt religious organizations, and allows certain taxes on the property to be waived.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 1604 extends the property purchasing privilege to certain tax-exempt religious organizations, and allows certain taxes on the property to be waived.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 33.011(a), Tax Code, to authorize the governing body of a taxing unit to waive penalties and provide for the waiver of delinquent tax interest regarding property acquired by a religious organization that qualifies for certain exemptions by a certain deadline.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 34.01(e), Tax Code, to authorize an officer to bid property to a person described by Section 11.20, Tax Code.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 34.015, Tax Code, to authorize a certain entity to provide for the manner of sale for land seized under Chapter 33E, Tax Code, if the land is sold to a certain religious organization. Specifies that low income individuals and entities qualify under Subsection (a)(1) or (2), and sets forth a requirement for the adoption of an ordinance under this subsection, rather than section.

SECTION 4. Repealer: Section 11.433(e), Tax Code (regarding a deadline for a late application for exemption for a religious organization).

SECTION 5. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 6. Emergency clause.