

1-1 By: Wray, Toth (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.B. No. 2179
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 3, 2019;
 1-3 April 4, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Property Tax; May 17, 2019, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 17, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Bettencourt	X			
1-8 Paxton	X			
1-9 Creighton	X			
1-10 Hancock			X	
1-11 Hinojosa	X			

1-13 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-14 AN ACT

1-15 relating to the grounds for imposing certain sanctions on certain
 1-16 persons for engaging in certain conduct in connection with the
 1-17 appointment of members of or the functions of appraisal review
 1-18 boards.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Sections 6.41(f) and (i), Tax Code, are amended
 1-21 to read as follows:

1-22 (f) A member of the board may be removed from the board by a
 1-23 majority vote of the appraisal district board of directors, or by
 1-24 the local administrative district judge or the judge's designee, as
 1-25 applicable, that appointed the member. Grounds for removal are:

1-26 (1) a violation of Section 6.412, 6.413, 41.66(f), or
 1-27 41.69;

1-28 (2) good cause relating to the attendance of members
 1-29 at called meetings of the board as established by written policy
 1-30 adopted by a majority of the appraisal district board of directors;
 1-31 or

1-32 (3) ~~clear and convincing~~ evidence of repeated bias
 1-33 or misconduct.

1-34 (i) This subsection applies only to an appraisal district
 1-35 described by Subsection (d-1). A chief appraiser or another
 1-36 employee or agent of the appraisal district, a member of the
 1-37 appraisal review board for the appraisal district, a member of the
 1-38 board of directors of the appraisal district, a property tax
 1-39 consultant, or an agent of a property owner commits an offense if
 1-40 the person communicates with the local administrative district
 1-41 judge regarding the appointment of appraisal review board members.
 1-42 This subsection does not apply to:

1-43 (1) a communication between a member of the appraisal
 1-44 review board and the local administrative district judge regarding
 1-45 the member's reappointment to the board;

1-46 (2) a communication between the taxpayer liaison
 1-47 officer for the appraisal district and the local administrative
 1-48 district judge in the course of the performance of the officer's
 1-49 clerical duties so long as the officer does not offer an opinion or
 1-50 comment regarding the appointment of appraisal review board
 1-51 members;

1-52 (3) a communication between a chief appraiser or
 1-53 another employee or agent of the appraisal district, a member of the
 1-54 appraisal review board for the appraisal district, or a member of
 1-55 the board of directors of the appraisal district and the local
 1-56 administrative district judge regarding information relating to or
 1-57 described by Subsection (d-1), (d-5), or (f) of this section or
 1-58 Section 411.1296, Government Code; ~~or~~

1-59 (4) a communication between a property tax consultant
 1-60 or a property owner or an agent of the property owner and the
 1-61 taxpayer liaison officer for the appraisal district regarding

2-1 information relating to or described by Subsection (f). The
2-2 taxpayer liaison officer for the appraisal district shall report
2-3 the contents of the communication relating to or described by
2-4 Subsection (f) to the local administrative district judge; or
2-5 (5) a communication between a property tax consultant
2-6 or a property owner or an agent of the property owner and the local
2-7 administrative district judge regarding information relating to or
2-8 described by Subsection (f).

2-9 SECTION 2. (a) Section 6.41(f), Tax Code, as amended by this
2-10 Act, applies only to a proceeding to remove an appraisal review
2-11 board member that begins on or after the effective date of this Act.
2-12 A proceeding to remove an appraisal review board member that began
2-13 before the effective date of this Act is governed by that subsection
2-14 as it existed on the date the proceeding to remove the board member
2-15 began, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

2-16 (b) The change in law made by this Act to Section 6.41(i),
2-17 Tax Code, applies only to an offense committed under that
2-18 subsection before, on, or after the effective date of this Act,
2-19 except that a final conviction for an offense committed under that
2-20 subsection before the effective date of this Act is unaffected by
2-21 this Act.

2-22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-26 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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