

1-1 By: Button, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Bettencourt) H.B. No. 796  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 5, 2023;  
1-3 April 12, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Local  
1-4 Government; May 2, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote:  
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 2, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the creation and maintenance by an appraisal district  
1-20 of a publicly available Internet database of information regarding  
1-21 protest hearings conducted by the appraisal review board  
1-22 established for the district.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 26.17(c), Tax Code, is amended to read as  
1-25 follows:

1-26 (c) The database must provide a link to:

1-27 (1) the Internet website used by each taxing unit in  
1-28 which the property is located to post the information described by  
1-29 Section 26.18; and

1-30 (2) the Internet database created by the chief  
1-31 appraiser under Section 41.13 that contains information regarding  
1-32 protest hearings conducted by the appraisal review board  
1-33 established for the appraisal district.

1-34 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 41, Tax Code, is amended by  
1-35 adding Section 41.13 to read as follows:

1-36 Sec. 41.13. PROTEST HEARING DATABASE. (a) The chief  
1-37 appraiser of each appraisal district shall create and maintain a  
1-38 publicly available and searchable Internet database that contains  
1-39 information regarding protest hearings conducted by the appraisal  
1-40 review board established for the district.

1-41 (b) For each protest hearing conducted by the appraisal  
1-42 review board, the database must contain:

1-43 (1) the name of each board member who attended the  
1-44 hearing;

1-45 (2) the date and time of the hearing;

1-46 (3) the account number and category for the property  
1-47 that was the subject of the hearing;

1-48 (4) the appraised value according to the appraisal  
1-49 district and the property owner's asserted value of the property  
1-50 that was the subject of the hearing; and

1-51 (5) the board's determination of the protest,  
1-52 including the board's determination of the value of the property if  
1-53 the hearing was to consider a protest regarding appraised value.

1-54 (c) The chief appraiser shall update the database not later  
1-55 than October 1 of each year.

1-56 (d) Beginning on January 1, 2025, the database shall include  
1-57 information for protests relating to the most recent tax year and  
1-58 each tax year thereafter until the database includes information  
1-59 for protests relating to the most recent five tax years.

1-60 (e) Beginning on January 1, 2030, the database shall include  
1-61 information for protests relating to the previous five tax years.

2-1 SECTION 3. Not later than the effective date of this Act,  
2-2 the chief appraiser of each appraisal district shall create and  
2-3 make available to the public the Internet database required by  
2-4 Section 41.13, Tax Code, as added by this Act.

2-5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect January 1, 2024.

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