

Changes to Texas Property Tax & Homestead Exemptions

The Texas homestead exemption, a cherished benefit for homeowners in the Lone Star State, has recently seen updates with the introduction of a **5-year renewal rule**, aiming to streamline the process while ensuring continued eligibility. This would be the result of the passing of Senate Bill 1801 that amends the old ruling that previously required a one-time filing.

While previous law required chief appraisers to verify the validity of the existing homestead exemptions, it didn't require them to proactively review exemptions. The new legislation mandates that appraisal districts establish procedures for conducting periodic assessments of all homestead exemptions. The program must require the chief appraiser to review each residence homestead exemption at least once every five tax years to confirm that the recipient of the exemption still qualifies for the exemption. When requested to, homestead exemption holders must reapply for their exemption to confirm that they still qualify. The chief appraiser may require a person allowed one of the exemptions in a prior year to file a new application to confirm his current qualification for the exemption by delivering a written notice that a new application is required, accompanied by an appropriate application form, to the person previously allowed the exemption.

If you receive a notice from your appraisal district, DO NOT discard or ignore it! The letter may contain important instructions and requests for information regarding your homestead exemption. Stay vigilant and respond promptly to any letters received from your appraisal district.

Contact Your Local Appraisal District With Questions Or For More Information:

Bastrop Central Appraisal District

212 Jackson St.
Bastrop, TX 78602
(512) 303-1930
bastropcad.org

Hays Central Appraisal District

21001 I-35
Kyle, TX 78640
(512) 268-2522
www.hayscad.com

Travis Central Appraisal District

850 E Anderson Ln.
Austin, TX 78752
(512) 834-9317
www.traviscad.org

Williamson Central Appraisal District

625 FM 1460
Georgetown, TX 78626
(512) 930-3787
www.wcad.org