

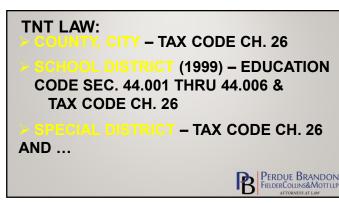
# TRUTH-IN-TAXATION 2024 RECAP

Ro'Vin Garrett, Client Liaison Bruce Medley, Attorney at Law Chris Jackson, Attorney at Law Kyle Dickson, Attorney at Law

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WHAT TO • REVIEW SOURCES OF TNT LAW EXPECT • A LOOK BACK AT 2024 NEW LAW • REMINDER OF STUFF WE ALREADY KNOW • TAXPAYER INJUNCTIONS – HOW TO AVOID • YOUR QUESTIONS



## TNT LAWS, CONT'D

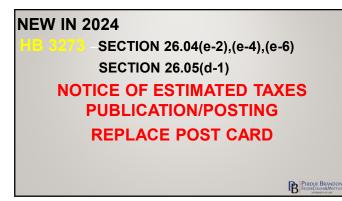
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ATER DISTRICT (2003) – WATER CODE SECS. 49.107, 49.108, 49.236, 49.23601, 49.23602, 49.23603

WATER DISTRICTS DO NOT FOLLOW TAX CODE SECS. 26.04, 26.042, 26.05, 26.06, 26.061, 26.07(a)-(b)

WATER DISTRICTS DO FOLLOW TAX CODE SECS. 26.07(C)-(G), 26.075, 26.081, 26.16, 26.17, 26.18.



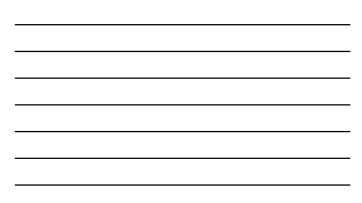


## NEW IN 2024 HB 3273 EFFECTIVE 1/1/24.

26.04(e-2) The chief appraiser of each appraisal district shall post prominently on the appraisal district's internet website, if the appraisal district maintains an internet website, and the assessor for each taxing unit that participates in the appraisal district shall post prominently on the taxing unit's internet website a notice informing each owner of property located in the appraisal district that the estimated amount of taxes to be imposed on the owner's property by each taxing unit in which the property is located may be found in the property tax database maintained by the appraisal district under section 26.17.



|   | Comparison   | of Proposed  | Rates with I | Last Year's Rate | s             |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
|   | Maintenance  | Interest     |              | Local Revenue    | State Revenue |
|   | & Operations | & Sinking Fu | nd* Total    | Per Student      | Per Student   |
| Last Year's Rate  | 0.76290      | 0.19380      | 0.95670      | 7,350            | 5,951         |
| Rate to Maintain Same   | e 0.76146    | 0.15857      | 0.92003      | 5,737            | 6,970         |
| Level of Maintenance<br>Operations Revenue<br>Pay Debt Service  |              |              |              |                  |               |
| Proposed Rate   | 0.76750      | 0.19380      | 0.96130      | 7,103            | 7,239         |
| <ul> <li>The Interest and Sir</li> <li>equipment, or both.</li> <li>The bonds, and the tax</li> </ul> |              |              |              |                  |               |



## **NEW FOR 2024**

## 'NT WORKSHEET

#### EFFECTIVE 1/1/24

TAX CODE SECTION 5.07(F) REQUIRES THE COMPTROLLER TO PRESCRIBE FORMS FOR ALL TAXING ENTITIES (THIS INCLUDES SCHOOL DISTRICTS) TO CALCULATE THE NO NEW REVENUE TAX RATE AND THE VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE

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# **NOW FOR 2024**

- •The TNT calculation worksheet experienced minor cosmetic changes.
- •Worksheet lines read Prior Year and Current Year instead of the specific year addressed (for example: Prior Year = 2023 and Current Year = 2024)
- •Headline of worksheet states specific tax year of calculation.

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#### **NEW IN 2024**

SB 1999 - EFFECTIVE 1-1-24

#### TAX CODE SECTION 26.013

REQUIRES A CALCULATION OF "FOREGONE REVENUE" TO DETERMINE THE UNUSED INCREMENT RATE. DEFINITION OF UIR DID NOT CHANGE

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## **CERTIFICATION OF APPRAISAL ROLL**

TAX CODE SECTION 26.01(a).

JULY 25 – CHIEF APPRAISER DELIVERS CERTIFIED APPRAISAL ROLL TO EACH TAXING ENTITY WITHIN THE CAD

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### **CERTIFICATION OF APPRAISAL ROLL**

TAX CODE SECTION 26.01(a-1)

JULY 25 – IF, BY JULY 20 THE ARB HAS NOT APPROVED THE APPRAISAL RECORDS AS PER SECTION 41.12, THE CHIEF APPRAISER SHALL CERTIFY AN ESTIMATE OF TAXABLE VALUE TO TAXING ENTITIES IN THE CAD

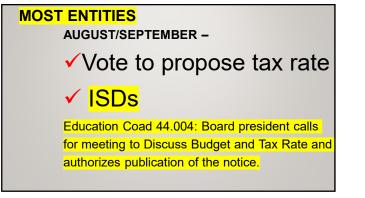
## CERTIFICATION OF APPRAISAL ROLL TAX CODE SECTION 26.04(c-2)

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, IF THE ASSESSOR FOR A TAXING UNIT RECEIVES A CERTIFIED ESTIMATE OF THE TAXABLE VALUE OF PROPERTY IN THE TAXING UNIT UNDER SECTION 26.01(a-1), THE OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TAXING UNIT SHALL CALCULATE THE NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE AND VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE USING THE CERTIFIED ESTIMATE OF TAXABLE VALUE.

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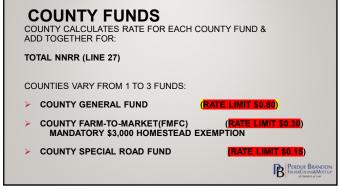
The designated officer/employee must submit the rates to the governing body and post specific information regarding those rates to the homepage of the entity's website as per Section 26.04(e) - Comptroller Form 50-212 [OTSDWD] and

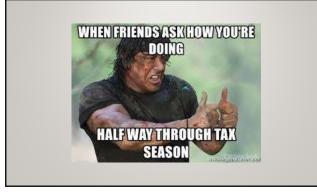
- The designated officer/employee must post the tax rate worksheets to the property tax database website maintained by the chief appraiser under Section 26.17. (ALL ENTITIES)
- Section 26.05(d-1) NOT ISD/WD A taxing unit may NOT hold a public hearing or adopt a tax rate until the fifth day after the date the chief appraiser has published/posted the notice required by Section 26.04(e-2) and made the property tax database information available to the public (within 3 days of receiving the information)

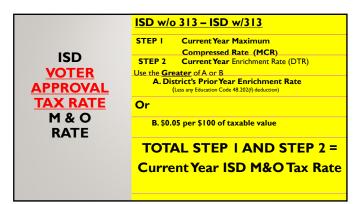


# COMPTROLLER FORMS MUST BE UTILIZED 50-856 - MOST TAXING UNIT TYPES - OTSDWD 50-859 - ISD WITHOUT CH. 313 50-834 - ISD WITH CH. 313 50-858 - LOW RATE/DEVELOPING WATER DISTRICT 50-860 - OTHER WATER DISTRICT "DEVELOPED DISTRICT"

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## COUNTIES: CURRENT YEAR VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE LINE 50

COUNTIES ADD EACH FUND TOGETHER FOR A TOTAL CURRENT YEAR COUNTY VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE... MOVE DOWN FROM THIS POINT ON ONE WORKSHEET MAKING ADJUSTMENT TO A SINGLE RATE

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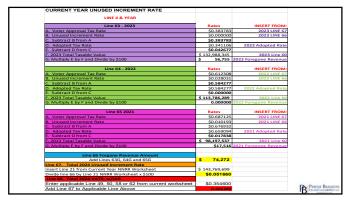
#### UNUSED INCREMENT RATE LINE 63-68

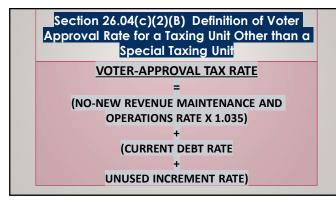
#### **Unused Increment Rate –**

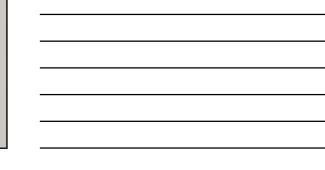
For entities that are **NOT** ISDS, Special Taxing Units or Entities calculating VATR as a Special Taxing Unit for Disaster Declaration purposes – (8.00% instead of 3.5%) <u>Includes Water Districts</u>



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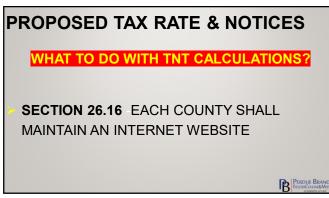




# DE MINIMIS RATE IF DMR EXCEEDS VATR ADOPTED RATE EXCEEDS VATR AND DMR = AUTOMATIC ELECTION ADOPTED RATE EXCEEDS VATR @8% AND DOES NOT EXCEED DMR = VOTERS MAY PETITION FOR ELECTION. MUST CALCULATE VATR @8% TO DETERMINE (OFF BOOK)

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| P | OSTINGS REQUIRED AT COUNTY   |
|---|--|
| S | ECTION. 26.16  |
|   | 5 YEARS TAX RATE INFO ALL TAXING UNITS IN COUNTY   |
|   | 5YEARS HISTORY TNT CALCULATION WORKSHEETS  |
|   | INCLUDE NAME AND OFFICIAL CONTACT INFORMATION FOR<br>EACH MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF ALL TAXING<br>UNITS IN COUNTY. |
|   | REQUIRED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER CALCULATION  |
|   | THE TNT CALCULATION WORKSHEETS FOR THE CURRENT   |
|   | YEAR FOR ALL ENTITIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED AND POSTED   |
|   | ON THE COUNTY'S WEBSITE BY THE COUNTY TA/C -   |
|   | SUBMITTED TO COUNTY BY THE ENTITY DESIGNATED   |
|   | OFFICER/EMPLOYEE PROVE BRANDON   |

| N | HAT TO DO WITH TNT CALCULATIONS?   |
|---|--|
|   | TNT WORKSHEET CALCULATIONS SHOULD BE MADE<br>AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION IN TAXING ENTITY TAX<br>OFFICE IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO COMPLY WITH OPEN<br>RECORDS REQUESTS.  |
| > | BY AUGUST 7 OR AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, EACH<br>ENTITY OTSDWD MUST POST ON THE <b>HOME PAGE OF</b><br><b>THE TAXING UNIT'S WEBSITE</b> CERTAIN ITEMS FROM THE<br>CALCULATION WORKSHEET AND IN <u>SECTION. 26.04(e)</u><br>COMPTROLLER FORM 50-212 |
|   | B PERDUE BRANDON<br>FRUDECIANSAMONT  |

#### TAX CODE SECTION 26.18 FOR

#### TAXING UNIT WEBSITE - OTSD & WD

- EACH TAXING UNIT SHALL MAINTAIN AN INTERNET WEBSITE OR HAVE ACCESS TO A GENERALLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE. EACH TAXING UNIT SHALL POST THE FOLLOWING ON ITS WEBSITE:
  - The name and official contact info for each member of the governing body of the taxing unit
  - ✓ The mailing address, email address and phone number of the taxing unit
  - The taxing unit's budget for the preceding two years
  - The taxing unit's proposed or adopted budget for the current year
  - The change in the amount of the taxing unit's budget from the preceding year to the current year, by dollar amount and percentage

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#### TAX CODE SECTION 26.18 FOR TAXING UNIT WEBSITE - OTSD

- Amount of property tax revenue budgeted for Maintenance & Operations for the preceding two years and the current year
- Amount of property tax revenue budgeted for Debt Service for the preceding two years and current year
- The M & O Tax Rate and Debt Service Tax Rate adopted in the preceding two years
- M & O Tax Rate and Debt Service Tax Rate proposed for the current year
- The most recent financial audit of the taxing unit

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#### TAX CODE SECTION 26.18 FOR TAXING UNIT WEBSITE – ISD

- ✓ Board member's name and official contact information;
- ✓ District's mailing address, email address, and telephone number;
- District's budget for the preceding two years;
- District's proposed or adopted budget for the current year;
- ✓ Change in the district's budget amount from the preceding year to the
- current year, by dollar amount and percentage;
- District's M & O tax rate for the preceding two years;
- District's I & S rate for the preceding two years;
- District's proposed M & O Rate for the current year;
- ✓ District's proposed I & S rate for the current year; and
- District's most recent financial audit

# BUDGET APPENDIX – SECTION 26.04(E-5)

#### (ALL EXCEPT WATER DISTRICTS)

ADD TNT CALCULATION WORKSHEET AS AN APPENDIX TO BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR THAT TAX RATE APPLIES.

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#### **BUDGET APPENDIX** – DEVELOPED WATER DISTRICTS

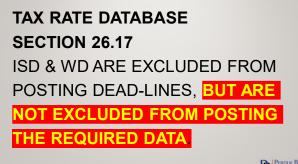
#### WATER CODE SECTION 49.057

(B) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT AN ANNUAL BUDGET. THE BOARD OF A DEVELOPED DISTRICT, AS DEFINED BY SECTION 49.23602, SHALL INCLUDE AS AN APPENDIX TO THE BUDGET THE DISTRICT'S:

- (1) AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS;
- (2) BOND TRANSCRIPTS; AND

(3) ENGINEER'S REPORTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 49.106.

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#### SECTION 26.17 DATABASE

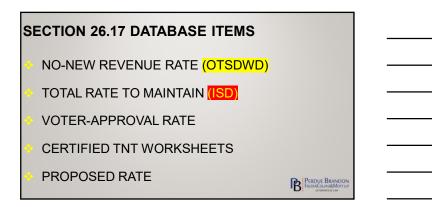
WEBSITE DATABASE MAINTAINED BY CAD FOR EACH PROPERTY WITH PRELIMINARY/REVISED TAX INFORMATION FOR EACH TAXING UNIT.

WWW.TEXAS.GOV/PROPERTYTAXES

OWNER CAN SEE WHAT PROPOSED TAXES WILL BE ON PROPERTY AND CONTACT TAXING UNIT ABOUT TAX INCREASE

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## SECTION 26.17 DATABASE ITEMS

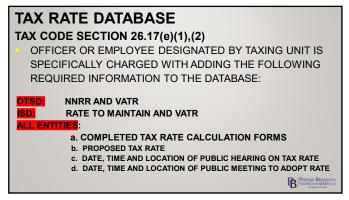
- DATE, TIME, LOCATION OF VOTE ON TAX RATE;
- DATE, TIME LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE;
- EMAIL ADDRESS TO SEND COMMENTS
- LINK TO UNIT'S WEBSITE.

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#### SECTION 26.17 DATABASE

- PROPERTY OWNER MAY ELECTRONICALLY COMPLETE & SUBMIT OPINION ON PROPOSED TAX RATE.
- PROPERTY OWNER MUST PROVIDE NAME, CONTACT INFO, PROPERTY'S PHYSICAL ADDRESS.
- CONTACT FORM AVAILABLE AT ANY TIME FROM DATE TAX RATE PROPOSED UNTIL ADOPTED.

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SECTION 26.05(b):

TAXING UNIT GOVERNING BODY, OTHER THAN A SCHOOL DISTRICT, MUST HAVE 60% VOTING IN FAVOR FOR A RATE THAT EXCEEDS THE LOWER OF NNRR OR VATR.

# SUPER MAJORITY FOR TAX INCREASE

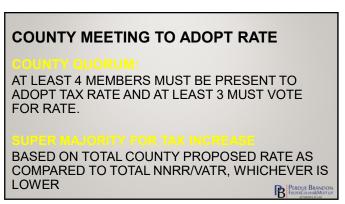
SECTION 26.05(b):

If the Proposed Tax Rate Exceeds the sum of the M & O Rate to Maintain + Current Debt Rate there must be a super majority of 60% to adopt the tax rate.

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|  | Comparison   | of Proposed  | Rates with I | ast Year's Rate | es              |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
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|  | & Operations | & Sinking Fu | und* Total   | Per Student     | Per Student     |
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| <ul> <li>The Interest and S</li> <li>equipment, or both</li> <li>The bonds, and the tag</li> </ul> |              |              |              |                 |                 |



#### WATER DISTRICT TAX RATE ADOPTION

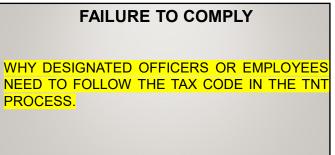
SECTION 26.05 DOES NOT APPLY TO WATER DISTRICTS.

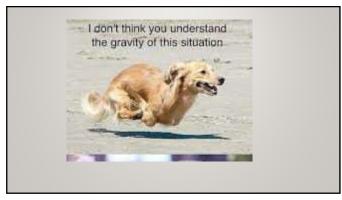
NEED TO GET ADOPTED TAX RATE TO TAX COLLECTOR FOR TAX BILLS TO GET MAILED TIMELY.

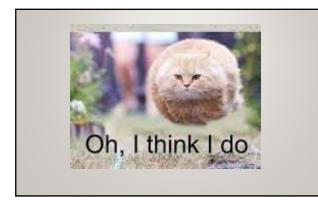
ADOPT M&O AND DEBT RATES (AND CONTRACT RATE).

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#### TAX CODE SECTION 26.04(g)

(g) A person who owns taxable property is entitled to an injunction prohibiting the taxing unit in which the property is taxable from adopting a tax rate if the assessor or designated officer or employee of the taxing unit, the chief appraiser of the applicable appraisal district, or the taxing unit, as applicable, has not complied with the computation, publication, or posting requirements of this section or section <u>26.16</u>, <u>26.17</u>, or <u>26.18</u>. It is a defense in an action for an injunction under this subsection that the failure to comply was in good faith.

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#### **SECTION 26.05(e)**

A person who owns taxable property is entitled to an injunction restraining the collection of taxes by a taxing unit in which the property is taxable if the taxing unit has not complied with the requirements of this section or section <u>26.04</u>. It is a defense in an action for an injunction under this subsection that the failure to comply was in good faith. An action to enjoin the collection of taxes must be filed not later than the 15th day after the date the taxing unit adopts a tax rate. A property owner is not required to pay the taxes imposed by a taxing unit on the owner's property while an action filed by the property owner to enjoin the collection of taxes imposed by a taxing unit on the owner's property owner pays the taxes and subsequently prevails in the action, the property owner is entitled to a refund of the taxes paid, together with **reasonable attorneys** fees and court costs. The property owner is not required to apply to the collector for the taxing unit to receive the refund.





