

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 1885  
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Ways & Means  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Concerns have been raised over situations in which taxpayers are made liable for penalties and interest on a property tax that becomes delinquent as a result of an error by a mortgagee. H.B. 1885 seeks to address these concerns and provide a waiver of those penalties and fees under certain circumstances.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 1885 amends the Tax Code to authorize the governing body of a taxing unit to waive penalties and interest on a delinquent property tax if the following conditions are met:

- the property for which the tax is owed is subject to a mortgage that does not require the property's owner to fund an escrow account for the payment of the taxes on the property;
- the tax bill was mailed or delivered by electronic means to the property's mortgagee, who failed to mail a copy of the bill to the property owner; and
- the taxpayer paid the tax not later than the 21st day after the date the taxpayer knew or should have known of the delinquency.

The bill requires a request for such a waiver to be made before the 181st day after the delinquency date.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

January 1, 2020.