

- SUBJECT:** Eligibility of a disabled veteran to pay property taxes in installments
- COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 6 ayes — Hilderbran, Otto, Bohac, Button, N. Gonzalez, Strama
0 nays
3 absent — Eiland, Martinez Fischer, Ritter
- WITNESSES:** For — Cheryl Johnson, Galveston County tax office; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Olie Pope, Jr., Veterans County Service Officers Association of Texas; Sheryl Swift, Galveston Tax Office)
Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** Tax Code, sec. 11.22 provides a partial exemption on property taxes owed by disabled veterans.

Tax Code, sec. 31.031 allows for an individual, who is the unmarried surviving spouse of a disabled veteran and qualifies under sec. 11.22, to make an alternative payment on property taxes owed. An individual under this section, who is not delinquent on any taxes owed and has already paid a portion of his or her property taxes, may provide notice to the taxing authority and pay the remaining taxes in three equal installments without penalty.
- DIGEST:** HB 1820 would amend Tax Code, sec. 31.031 by adding disabled veterans, in addition to the existing allowance for spouses of disabled veterans, as being eligible for the alternative tax payment method.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.