

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
80R3079 JPL-D

S.B. 504
By: Wentworth
Finance
3/6/2007
As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Property tax exemptions are provided for many classes and uses of property, such as solar and wind-powered energy devices. Having those devices on the property entitles a person to a tax exemption for the amount of the appraised value that arises from that device. Such exemptions currently require an annual application.

As proposed, S.B. 504 provides for owners of homesteads with solar or wind-powered devices to make only one application for this exemption as they do the homestead exemption, unless the appraisal district of that homestead requests another application to confirm the exemption.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 11.27, Tax Code, by adding Subsection (a-1), as follows:

(a-1) Provides that property upon which a solar or wind-powered energy device is installed or constructed and that qualifies for an exemption under Section 11.27 (Solar and Wind Powered Energy Devices), Tax Code (renewable energy exemption), and that qualifies for a residence homestead exemption under Section 11.13 (Residence Homestead), Tax Code, maintains the renewable energy exemption for subsequent years without requiring the property owner to reapply for that exemption, as provided by Section 11.43(c), Tax Code.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective to an ad valorem tax year that begins on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. Effective date: January 1, 2008.