

Texas Binding Arbitration Changes

The 85th Legislature made the following changes to binding arbitration laws effective Sept. 1, 2017.

- Senate Bill 731 raised the value of non-homestead property that is eligible to go to binding arbitration from a limit of \$3 million up to a limit of \$5 million.
- Senate Bill 1286 changed the selection process for arbitrators from property owner and appraisal district selection to Comptroller selection and restricted arbitrator eligibility.
- Senate Bill 1286 limits arbitration assignment to arbitrators living in the county of the arbitration and only opens an arbitration to statewide selection when a county does not have any residing arbitrators living in the county or when all residing arbitrators have declined a case.
- Senate Bill 1286 prevents arbitrators from being eligible for an appointment if, at any time during the preceding five years, they have represented a person for compensation in a Tax Code proceeding or have served as an officer or employee of the appraisal district or member of the appraisal review board (ARB) in the county in which the subject property is located.