

PROCLAMATION
BY THE
Governor of the State of Texas
41-2956

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1659 as passed by the Seventy-Eighth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Senate Bill No. 1659 would authorize property owners to designate an agent to receive tax refunds on their behalf. It would have allowed property owners to designate an agent to receive tax refunds on their behalf. This change would enable firms that help people obtain tax refunds to receive a person's refund in order to deduct its fee, usually 50 percent of the amount recovered. While these firms claim to provide a public service, appraisal districts provide this information to homeowners at no cost. The Attorney General has sued some firms of deceiving homeowners about how they can obtain a homestead exemption.

The bill also requires senior citizens who establish a different homestead in the middle of the year to wait until the following January 1 to qualify their new residence for a homestead exemption and corresponding tax~~s~~ ceiling, or "freeze." Current law allows citizens who are 65 or over to immediately qualify for the tax exemption on their new residence.

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 20th day of June, 2003.

Rick Perry

RICK PERRY
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

Gwyn Shea

GWYN SHEA
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
7:30 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 20 2003