



## Harris Central Appraisal District News Release

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### HCAD Clarifies Elderly And Disabled Exemption

**Houston** — The Harris Central Appraisal District (HCAD) has worked with Texas Senator Paul Bettencourt to clarify that the intent of Senate Bill 23 was to extend to surviving spouses of elderly homeowners.

S.B. 23 increases the homestead exemption for elderly and disabled homeowners to \$60,000 from \$10,000. In applying the exemptions, the appraisal district did not extend the benefit to surviving spouses.

However, Senator Bettencourt, the author of the bill, made it clear yesterday afternoon in a call to the district that it was his intent and the legislature's intent to pass along the additional \$50,000 increase in the homestead exemption for elderly persons to surviving spouses.

Therefore, it will be HCAD's policy that surviving spouses will receive the benefit of this increased exemption.

For more information on homestead exemptions, over-65 exemptions, disabled person exemptions and disabled veteran exemptions, call the HCAD Information Center at 713.957.7800, email [help@hcad.org](mailto:help@hcad.org) or go to the district's website at [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org) where exemption information and applications are available under the *Forms* tab on the top tool bar.

### About HCAD

The Harris Central Appraisal District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas established in 1980 for the purpose of discovering and appraising property for ad valorem tax purposes for each taxing unit within the boundaries of the district. The district has approximately 1.9 million parcels of property to assess each year with a total market value of approximately \$902 billion. The appraisal district in Harris County is the largest in Texas, serving more than 500 taxing units, and one of the largest appraisal districts in the United States. For further information, visit [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org).

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