

## APPENDIX 14:

# Tax Rate Rollback Petition and Ballots

These rollback petitions are examples for information purposes only. Both taxing units and taxpayers must be aware that the Tax Code does not specify the wording required for a rollback petition, nor does it state the form that the petition must take. The taxing unit's governing body is responsible for determining if a rollback petition presented to it is valid. Call the Secretary of State at 1-800-252-8683, Election Division, with questions on election laws. Election Code Chapter 277 requires the information on the sample petition below.

Taxpayers must include several items of information on a rollback petition to assist the governing body in determining validity: date of signature, printed name of voter, birth date and home address. If the taxing unit is located in more than one county, the voter must include the name of the county in which he or she resides.

Tax Code Section 26.081 addresses petition signatures. To be valid, a voter's signature is not required to appear exactly as the voter's name appears on the most recent official voter registration list. If the taxing unit's governing body is unable to verify a particular voter's signature, it will look to the petition for some reasonable means to verify, such as home address. The governing body may require the petition's organizer to provide such information for that particular voter, if the organizer wishes for the signature to be counted. Signatures collected more than six months before the petition is presented are not valid.

Persons who are considering circulation of a rollback petition or a governing body that is considering the validity of a rollback petition should consult legal counsel for guidance.

### Sample Rollback Petition for a Taxing Unit Other Than a School District

This petition, signed by the following registered voters in the taxing unit of \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of taxing unit*) is intended to require that an election be held in the \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of taxing unit*) concerning the question of reducing the tax rate for the current year, \_\_\_\_\_. The provisions for this petition are set forth in Section 26.07 (or 26.085) of the Property Tax Code.

Date Signed	Voter Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Birth Date
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
and so on				

**Note:** Add county of residence if taxing unit is located in more than one county.

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### **Tax Rate Rollback Election**

For \_\_\_\_\_  
*(name of taxing unit)*

\_\_\_\_\_ *(date of election)*

#### OFFICIAL BALLOT

Place an "X" in the square beside the statement indicating the way you wish to vote.

FOR

AGAINST

Reducing the tax rate in \_\_\_\_\_  
*(name of taxing unit)*

for the current year from \_\_\_\_\_  
*(the rate adopted)*

to \_\_\_\_\_  
*(the rollback rate calculated by*

*Section 26.04 of the Property Tax Code)* \_\_\_\_\_.