

Chairperson:	Abbie Cornett
Committee:	Revenue
Date of Hearing:	February 26, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 553 makes several changes to property valuation protest procedures.

Protests would be filed electronically with the county clerk or county assessor using an online system developed by the Department of Revenue. Upon the filing of a protest, the property description and characteristics would be made available to the protester for verification. The county assessor would provide the protester with the methods used to value the property, a detailed property description of the property, and a list of comparable properties used in a comparable sales analysis of the property.

Each protest would be assigned to a credentialed real property appraiser employed by the department for review. Appraisers would prepare reports on each protest including a description of the property to which the protest applies, any recommendation for action on the protest, the date the appraiser reviewed the protest, the decision made by the appraiser, the date of the decision, and the date notice of the decision was mailed to the protester and county assessor.

The report would contain a statement advising the protester that a copy of the report may be used to complete an appeal to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission. No new evidence or information may be submitted to the commission for purposes of appealing the decision of the real property appraiser's decision in this matter.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Tom White