



January 17, 2024

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Executive Director

Dear Executive Director Park,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the Appraisal Subcommittee on opportunities and challenges for the appraisal profession and address appraisal bias and diversity in the profession.

Over the past couple years, Texas has implemented initiatives to increase the number of appraisers in the state and diversity within the industry, as well as education on and reduction of appraisal bias.

- **Texas is one of only five states without additional barriers to obtain an appraiser license.** In June 2023, the PAVE taskforce published its dashboard identifying states that had more stringent requirements than federal requirements—or additional barriers to entry. To support the goal of more appraisers and enhanced diversity in the industry, Texas has not adopted, and repealed, such requirements.
- **Texas is an early adopter of PAREA.** The agency created a communications campaign around PAREA, which led to high Texan participation. Additionally, the agency focused outreach efforts on aspiring appraisers, including participation in the Appraiser Diversity Initiative Workshop.
- **Texas has experts in fair housing and appraisal standards investigating cases alleging appraisal bias.** In October 2022, TALCB sought a partnership with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Civil Rights Division, a Fair Housing Assistance Program, to ask for help in working towards making the appraisal industry bias-free.

To further these and other initiatives, Texas hopes to obtain ASC funding to use toward our common goal of increasing appraiser diversity and ensuring Texans in rural areas have access to appraisal services.

Sincerely,

*Melissa Tran*

Melissa Tran  
TALCB Director