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**Bettencourt Passes Senate Bill 1006 Unanimously That Saves Time and Money for Small Businesses**  
*SB1006 will increase the business personal property tax exemption from \$500 to \$2,500 to provide much needed tax relief*

**Austin, Texas** - Senator Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) passed SB1006, a refile from the 85th session, to the House to bring property tax relief to small businesses around the state, an important piece of the Texas Economy. This bill increases the exemption amount for business personal property from \$500 to \$2,500, the limit has not been adjusted since 1995. This bill was passed unanimously, 30-0, through the full Senate. There is bipartisan support for SB1006, joint-authors include Senator Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe), Senator Angela Paxton (R-McKinney), Senator Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills), and co-authored by Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa (D-McAllen).

**"This bill will save time and money for businesses and government both,"** Senator Bettencourt said. **"It will keep small businesses from having to turn renditions forms in, so the government will not have to process them and the tax offices will not have to collect them,"** he continued.

Under current law, taxpayers with less than \$500 of business personal property do not have to pay taxes on the property. SB1006 raises the exemption to \$2,500 to reflect that the cost of appraising and assessing taxes on a business' tangible personal property worth less than \$2,500 is greater than the revenue received on the property. This allows appraisal districts and tax assessors to put their resources to better use in other areas.

**"This is a recognition of the obvious. The cost of collecting property taxes under a certain amount exceeds the amount of revenue collected by those taxes,"** said Senator Bettencourt. **"This is a win-win. It will cut down compliance costs, reduce paperwork and allow small businesses to focus their efforts on their customers and not the Tax Man,"** he added.

The savings to everyone results from the offset due to not collecting taxes on these small businesses that are ultimately insufficient to cover the cost of collection. The Harris County Appraisal District predicts SB1006 would allow almost 40 thousand businesses, with \$37,475,518 in business personal property, to not need to report or pay any tax on these Di Minimis values of property. On average, each of these 40 thousand accounts would have \$937 worth of business personal property and have a tax bill of \$23.

**"In the 21st century, we can recognize that saving time for small businesses and government is saving taxpayers money all around!"** concluded Senator Bettencourt.

SB 1006 updates the exemption to reflect the changing realities that face small businesses in the present, and into the future.

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