

By: Orr

H.B. No. 3401

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the certification of documents by county clerks,
district clerks, and joint county and district clerks.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 51, Government Code, is
amended by adding Section 51.3033 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.3033. CERTIFIED COPIES. A certified copy made of an
original document on file in a district clerk's office must
include:

(1) on each page of the copy:

(A) the clerk's signature or initials; and

(B) the district court seal; and

(2) on the final page of the copy:

(A) the clerk's attestation certifying that the
copy is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in
the clerk's office;

(B) the number of pages copied; and

(C) the date the copy was issued.

SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Government Code, is
amended by adding Section 51.503 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.503. CERTIFIED COPIES. A certified copy made of an
original document on file in a joint clerk's office must include:

(1) on each page of the copy:

(A) the clerk's signature or initials; and

1 (B) the applicable court's seal; and

2 (2) on the final page of the copy:

3 (A) the clerk's attestation certifying that the
4 copy is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in
5 the clerk's office;

6 (B) the number of pages copied; and

7 (C) the date the copy was issued.

8 SECTION 3. Chapter 191, Local Government Code, is amended
9 by adding Section 191.0041 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 191.0041. CERTIFIED COPIES. A certified copy made of
11 an original document on file in a county clerk's office must
12 include:

13 (1) on each page of the copy:

14 (A) the clerk's signature or initials; and

15 (B) either:

16 (i) the commissioners court seal on a copy
17 of a document that is not a court document; or

18 (ii) the court seal on a copy of a court
19 document; and

20 (2) on the final page of the copy:

21 (A) the clerk's attestation certifying that the
22 copy is a true and correct copy of the original document filed in
23 the clerk's office;

24 (B) the number of pages copied; and

25 (C) the date the copy was issued.

26 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.