

By: Dunnam

H.B. No. 786

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the contents and appeal of certain orders in a suit
3 affecting the parent-child relationship.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 161.206, Family Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

7 (d) An order terminating the parent-child relationship must
8 contain in boldfaced type, capital letters, or underlined, a
9 statement notifying the person whose parental rights are terminated
10 of the person's right to appeal the order and the date by which the
11 person must file a notice of appeal.

12 (e) For purposes of an appeal under Section 109.002, an
13 order terminating the parent-child relationship is a final order
14 with respect to a parent whose parental rights are terminated,
15 regardless of whether the court has finally disposed of all other
16 parties and issues in the suit.

17 SECTION 2. Section 161.206(d), Family Code, as added by
18 this Act, applies only to an order terminating the parent-child
19 relationship that is rendered on or after the effective date of this
20 Act. An order terminating the parent-child relationship that is
21 rendered before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
22 law in effect on the date the order was rendered, and the former law
23 is continued in effect for that purpose.

24 SECTION 3. Section 161.206(e), Family Code, as added by

1 this Act, applies only to an appeal in a suit affecting the
2 parent-child relationship pending in an appellate court or
3 commenced on or after the effective date of this Act.

4 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.